THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following letter regarding District Administration Reports:

I have read your leader on "District Reports" in your issue of the 29 ultimo, with some interest. Sir George Campbell indeed introduced the wholesome system of publishing the Government Resolutions on the General Administration of each Division in the Calcutta Gazette, the outside public can now have an insight into the administration of a division and can have much authentic information of which they were formerly in ignorance. They could know much more if the reports were published as is done in the case of Road Cess Reports.

The order of the present Government making it compulsory on each Magistrate of a District and each Sub-Divisional Officer to remain out for 90 and 120 days respectively in a year is indeed very hard. A District Magistrate who has always a staff of subordinates under him can make arrangements to pass 90 days in the interior of his district without any detriment to office work. But for a Sub-divisional Officer, the case is otherwise. They are mostly without an assistant, while their duties are as heavy as those of a District Magistrate. A Sub-Divisional Officer has to look after the crimes, Registration, partition, settlement, excise, stamp and Treasury of his Sub-Division, each of which requires his close attention and is responsible for any error or shortcomings in any of them. He is I should think the most hard-worked officer in a district. I have heard several Sub-Divisional officers working from 6 A.M. to 9 P.M. with a couple of hours respite for breakfast in the day. A Sub-Divisional Officer cannot remain out of his Head-quarters for more than 4 or 5 days at a time, for he must issue out stamps, opium, do treasury business and several other petty work. It is, therefore, cruel for the Government to note down a Sub-Divisional Officer's name in the black book of the Appointment Department, if he fails to pass 120 out of 365 days in the interior of his District. There is only one remedy for this. It is to give them an assistant officer without incurring any cost from the Provincial or Imperial Revenues. I would suggest that the Registration fees now enjoyed by the Sub-Divisional Officers may be withdrawn from them and with the same a Deputy Magistrate on Rs. 150 or a Sub-Deputy may be posted to each Sub-Division.

There will also be a small saving from the Travelling allowance of a Sub-Divisional Officer, for he shall not have to return so often to his head-quarters, to look after the stamps, opium and treasury business which can be safely done by the officer appointed to assist him. If a Moonsiff could live on his own pay in a chowki, without a Government building to live in, I do not see why a Sub-Divisional Officer should not. This will be no hardship to them, though there would be some grumbling at first.

It is much to be regretted that the names of Zemindars, who might have inadvertently entangled himself in a case or somehow incurred the displeasure of a District Officer, should be published in an Official Gazette and then paraded in the columns of newspapers. I think this chapter of the Report ought to be omitted from the next year.

The people of Dacca are very glad to see Babu Jugot Bandhu Bhattyacharji confirmed so soon as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division. But they are at a loss to understand why he was refused the same appointment at Dacca when it fell vacant about 2 years ago. Perhaps Government has now come to know of its own mistake. He is more fitted for the appointment he now holds than an Executive Officer.

A CORRESPONDENT, who wrote to us the other day about the wretched condition of the villages suffering from the Damuda flood, says:

Misfortune never comes alone. A week has not yet elapsed since I posted my letter to you containing a short account of the miseries of the inhabitants of Jaakully, Kulara, &c., I forgot to mention therein the name of a village close to Kulara. The name of the village is Danga. It is a small village on a little elevated tract of land whence is its name. A large quantity of water entered the habitable portion of this village, stagnated and decomposed animal and vegetable matters therein. The effect of this has been a dreadful outbreak of cholera. There were more than 50 deaths from the disease in the village within the last week. This pestilence in a village with a population not exceeding 350 induces me to think that there may be some truth in prophecy which went round newspapers in July last. Beyond the precincts of this village the terrible disease has not yet made its appearence. God alone knows how widely or otherwise this fell disease will spread, and how many will fall victims to it.

THE CALCUTTA MEDICAL GAZETTE says that a certain number of Assistant-Surgeons in each Presidency are to have the distinction conferred upon them of being styled Honorary Assistant-Surgeon to the Viceroy. It is an appropriate and well deserved recognition of the services rendered to the State by a useful and hardworking body of officers. Several names have been notified in the last *Gazette of India*. Babu Denobundo Dutt is the representative of Bengal, and Babu Jadub Kissen Ghose that of the Central Provinces.

THE PRELIMINARY SURVEY for the Trans-Sahara Railway has resulted in the discovery of a buried city. A mound of sand of peculiar appearance arrested the attention of the workers, and when opened it was found to cover the dome of a mosque. Several houses were afterwards unearthed.

A STORY comes from Geneva and Paris that the Russian nobility are so dissatisfied with the conduct of the Czar that they have joined a Socialist Association, which they support by large sums of money, and the object of which is the assassination of the Czar and his brother Vladimir.

A CONFERENCE of "Freethinkers of all nations" is to be held in London about the close of this month. Professor Buchner, the author of the celebrated "Force and Matter," is to be present, and delegates from America and from all parts of the Continent are to attend. The last congress was held in Brussels, when it was decided that this year's conference should be convened in Paris. But it has been since decided to hold the congress in London.

TUESDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER.

THE READER will have some idea of the French mob from the following account of a reception given to Mr. Gambetta at a public meeting in Paris:

He at first tried to obtain silence by reproaching the meeting with its turbulence, but the word "citoyens" was not out of his month before the din recommenced with renewed vigour. The mob shouted, yelled, sang, and whistled while the *vacarme* was renderd even more confusing by the counter cheers of the Gambettists. At last, by the repeated cries "Rethy," "Rethy" the name of a popular workman orator, it became evident that the mob wished to have that individual on the platform. As far as I could see he was accommodated with a seat, and then M. Gambetta again rose to his feet. By this time the accomplished orator was lashed into a state of violent indignation, and once more striking the table, with redoubled energy he endeavoured to silence the clamorous element in the crowd. He appealed to his supporters to eject the disturbers, and repeatedly exclaimed in a loud voice. Those who whistles are cowards." The appeal was, however, useless and the noise growing every moment more overwhelming proved that the anti-Gambetta partisans were too strong for their opponents. M. Gambetta, then seeing that all was hopeless, gave vent to his anger in a few short sentences delivered with gestures indicating the deepest scorn for his assailants. As far as the uproar allowed his words to be distinguished, he said addressing only the disturbers:—"You are unworthy of liberty if you are not ready to grant that of the platform. You have been pleased to call me a 'Dictator,' but if I am Dictator you are nothing but a host of emancipated slaves, unworthy of the freedom you possess. I know however, the desperadoes who sent you here. I am not a beginner at unmasking their underhand schemes, and you may rely on it I will pursue them into the innermost recesses of their strongholds." This short harangue finished, M. Gambetta put on his hat and amid the liveliest signs of sympathy from his friends, left the platform by a door at the presidential chair. The meeting was then declared closed, the words of the President being received with a triumphant yell by the mob.

THE FOLLOWING is a description of the Chair presented to Mr. Gladstone by the good people of Greenwich. It is of brown oak, with buff morocco covering, edged with the Westminister blue band and silvered nails. On the cushioned back Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone's arms, with the motto "Fide et Virtute," are embossed in gold. Above, let into a wreath in the woodwork representing the rose, shamrock, and thistle, and a bundle of leeks, is a *plaque* of silver, on which is engraved the following inscription:—"Presented to the Right Honourable William Ewart Gladstone, M. P., First Lord of the Treasury, together with an address, by the Liberals of the borough of Greenwich and the Liberal clubs of the neighbourhood, in testimony of the high appreciation of the priceless services rendered by him to the country, and in remembrance of the proud distinction conferred upon the borough as their representative in Parliament from 1868 to 1880, August, 1881." On either side of the wreath is an axe, and underneath on one side the emblems of tyranny, a scourge, a birch rod and chains, and on the other side the emblems of liberty and prosperity, a wreath of palm leaves and various fruits. The chair runs on silver castors. Accompanying it is a foot-stool of the same materials and style of workmanship.

THE FOLLOWING conversation took place in the House of Commons regarding the taxes on opium levied in China:

Mr. A. Pease asked the Secretary for India whether her Majesty's Government had information confirming the statement of the *London and China Telegraph* of the 8th instant that the Chinese Government had decided to increase the tax on foreign opium, and to levy a tax on native opium; and whether her Majesty's Government considered that Chinese Government was free to levy what duties it pleased upon opium imported and native. Sir C. Dilke: Her Majesty's Government have received information that an increase of inland tax on opium is under the consideration of the Chinese Government, but not that such increase has been decided upon. They have no information as to a tax on native opium. The Chinese Government are free to levy what duties they please on native opium. Foreign opium after it has left the importer's hands, and is carried inland by the Chinese purchaser, is liable to such a taxation as the Chinese Government may think fit to impose on it.

A YOUNG ROUMANIAN engineer, Trajan Theodoresco, has succeeded in constructing a submarine vessel which puts every thing that has gone before in submarine navigation completely in the shade. This boat, up to a certain maximum size and corresponding tonnage, it is said, may be navigated under water for twelve hours at a stretch, at a depth of 100 feet; she may, however, according to the inventor, be lowered to over 300 feet below the surface of the water, and without coming into contact with the atmosphere.

THE RESULT of an inquiry into myopia in schools are given in a recent number of the *Elsass-Lothringische Volkschule*, showing that myopia is greatly spreading among the boys and girls of the German schools, the mischief being more marked as the children get up into the higher classes of the schools. The number of short-sighted in the elementary classes was from 5 to 11 per cent. (the examination embracing 10,000 children); in the higher schools for girls the proportion was from 10 to 24 per cent.; in the *realschulen*, between 20 and 40 per cent.; in the gymnasia, between 30 and 55; and in the two highest classes of all, between 35 and 88 per cent. We are afraid the disease is also increasing among school-boys in Bengal.

THE LONDON PAPERS announce the marriage of the Duke of Argyll K. T. with the Hon. Mrs. Anson, eldest daughter of the Bishop of St. Albans, and widow of the late Colonel the Hon. Augustus Henry Archibald Anson M. P., V. C. The ceremoney was strictly private.

A CONTEMPORARY says:—"To some extent the extreme privacy of the Duke of Argyll's marriage with Mrs. Anson was owing to the fact that the step was not approved by the Campbell family. Only a few of the Duke's own connections were present. The marriage in fact was disagreeable to them for the strongest of all reasons—self-interest. Already the Duke has a very large family to provide for out of a by no means large ducal income, and as Mrs. Anson is still young—some four or five and thirty—there is a fair prospect of the number of the Duke's dependants being yet further increased."

WEDNESDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER.

ACCORDING to a Kurrachi paper, the Secretary of State has called upon the Bombay Government for a "full explanation" of Mr. Satyandranath Tagore's removal from his appointment of Judge of Surat to Carwar.

IT IS stated that the Home Government has generously agreed to accept £10,000, instead of £12,000, per annum, as India's contribution to the expenses of the Persian Embassy, from the 1st of April 1880.

TWO INTERESTING volumes on the Literature of Chess have been recently published by Dr. A. Linde, of Berlin. Dr. Duncan Forbes claimed for the game of Chess an antiquity of 5,000 years. Dr. Linde says the game was undoubtedly invented in India, but not before A.D. 500, and that its westward progress was greatly aided by the Mahomedan conquests. The learned author gives a catalogue of all the known works on the subject.

SIR GARNET WOLSELEY is reported to have said recently that the Native Indian Cavalry are infinitely superior to the Russian Cossacks. He believes that they are more intelligent, and are better men, better armed, and are mounted on much better horses. Should England, he added, ever be engaged in a great European war, she could easily spare 10,000 of these troops from her Indian Army. The number of Native Infantry that could be drawn from India in such a crisis, is practically unlimited. He considers that they have as good fighting qualities as European soldiers, and are better marchers.

SENTENCES passed by Criminal Courts in Madras seem to be worth study. The *Hindu* mentions these three cases. In a village in the Bellary District, a person was convicted of stealing a rupee from a liquor shop, and on his own confession was sentenced by the Town Magistrate, who tried the case, to six months' rigorous imprisonment and to receive sixty lashes with a cat-o'-nine tail. In a village in the Bellary District, a Brahmin complained that a lad of eighteen at the instigation of some mischievous people had assaulted him and cut his hairs, which he said was "one of the greatest indignities that could

be offered to a Brahmin." This lad was sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment. The third case was connected with certain defalcations committed by a bailiff of the Madras Municipality. The man was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment and Rs. 100 fine. Surely these sentences are worth study.

WE OBSERVE that Mr. Satyendranath Tagore's case has made some stir in England. The *Radical*, which as its name implies is we believe a radical paper, holds forth in the following language:

"Very few among us know of the extreme hostility felt by the Indians towards this country through the insufferable arrogance of British officials, and their utter indifference to the feelings of the people. Their better classes are invariably treated as Mr. Tagore has been, while the poorer of them are looked upon as so many cattle. We ourselves have seen a man who held the position of a judicial officer in India cut a native across the shoulders with his riding whip, because the man, who by the way, had probably never set eyes on him before, did not *salaam* to him! We all know the case of a Magistrate who had a native pleader forced into a corner of his court and his own shoes placed on his head, the direst of insults to an Asiatic, and this because he considered he had been guilty of contempt of court. These are not isolated cases; they are examples of what always has been done and is done now. As for the brutality practised upon the native by the whites in general, such as beating them to death and being fined in the sum of thirty rupees for it—this has actually occurred, and not once only! These are matters unfortunately not well enough known in this country. A slight perusal of Lord Lytton's Fuller Minute, will convey only a slight idea of what is every day done by callous and attrociously cruel officials and others in the name of the people of the United Kingdom. And these are the very men—all the Indian whites are staunch Jingoes—who are always crying out about the honour of England in connection with the slaughter of unarmed and, unaggressive Afghans and Zulus!"

THURSDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER.

THE FOLLOWING is from a correspondent at Shillong:

The late rains and the prospects of further downpour as indicated by the weather have dispelled all gloomy anticipations of the expected harvest. We see nothing of the second comet of which I see notices in the papers, but the sky is so cloudy that even if it has appeared it is not possible to have a look at it. The strong belief in the minds of the people that such visitations are omens of evil has led them to take action which raises a smile. They have begun making farewell visits to friends and relatives, while many have left their places of business to die the bosoms of their families. I make no apology in giving the following account of our Chief Commissioner's way of doing business. It shows only what stuff is the Chief made of. He was lately out on tour and while in the Surma valley he walked on foot up-hill and down-dale over the most impracticable roads, sometimes wading through knee-deep mud, and this from early morn to 2 in the afternoon, after taking many of the officers off their legs, and all this time not taking even a cup of tea. After a hasty breakfast he would be at his desk till dusk to dispose of office work. The Chief Commissioner I hear is going to curtail the Assam allowance of the P. W. D. clerks. If the pay and allowances of the higher officers remain untouched it would be a paltry retrenchment most unworthy of a liberal Government. The Chief Commissioner will be out on his winter tour after the *Puja*. He will be accompanied by Mr. Lyall, the Secretary, the Inspector-General of Police and Jails, the Inspector of Schools and probably the Commissioner of the Assam valley districts. The Chief will visit the regimental quarters in company with His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Bankipore:

A very successful evening party was held by Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge of Bankipore on the 10th instant to which the *elite* of European and native society here were invited. About 200 guests, of whom more than 30 were European ladies and gentlemen, were present. There was much cordiality, freedom, and enthusiasm in the company. Never did the native gentlemen enjoy more heartily or feel more at home in the company of Europeans than that evening. All the guests mixed and talked freely with each other without the least constraint.

The Dinapore regimental band played in the garden. In the hall Mrs. Grierson, played the violin, and Mr. Grierson the Joint-Magistrate, and Mr. Dyson the harmonium, while of the native gentlemen assembled Moulvi Yehia and Munshi Muzuffali, vakils, added to the glee and humour of the company by singing to the ladies and gentlemen in the verandah; and the old school Pundit humoured the European and native guests by reciting witty slokas and merry stories. The billiard was tried by Messrs. Shuttleworth, Dyson and Syud Lootfali's son and occasionally by the host. There was a free interchange of talk among both Europeans and natives—of the Europeans Mr. Paul, the Magistrate and Mr. Mowat, the Professor were conspicuous in this respect. Refreshment tents were pitched in the garden and around the house for Hindu and Mahomedan gentlemen, who were served in their own way by Hindu and Mahomedan servants and were in perfect order. The anxious countenance and the fatigued appearance of the host (for it must be remembered that he was very ill just before), his earnestness and that of the good hostess, their constant attendance and pressing requests, their kind questions to every one individually, gave an incentive to the guests to be free and hearty and to do justice to their kind desires. At about midnight most of the Hindu and Mahomedan guests departed with the unanimous feeling that the party was a grand success. The Hindu Proverb says "where there is heart, there is success."

A GUEST.

WE HAVE received from the Government of Bengal the following:

Arrivals from Aden are placed seven days under quarantine at Milton, British Ambassador at Constantinople telegraphs that Board of Health has ordered that arrivals from Aden shores of Red Sea and Gulf of Aden South of 10th degree of latitude proceeding to an Ottoman port should be required to call at Hodeidah and submit at that or at the island of Caracua to quarantine. Vessels from the above mentioned shore arriving at Jeddah or elsewhere without having performed quarantine would be driven back to Hodeidah without being allowed to communicate.

WE HAVE received from a Serampore correspondent the report of a criminal trial held there lately before the Joint-Magistrate in which some *Bhuddurlokes* were defendants. It was a case of brutal assault arising from a drunken brawl. The defendants were fined. We have not space for the report *in extenso*, but we hope the parties concerned will take our hint and behave better in future. Otherwise we will publish their names.

WE ARE requested to mention that His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir has been graciously pleased to make a second donation of Rs. 500 to Babu Protap Roy's Puran Distributing Fund. Babu Tarucknath Pramanik so well known for his benevolence and charity has contributed Rs. 100 to the fund.

WE HAVE received the following further intelligence relating to the N. S. Municipality from our Barahanagara correspondent:

The Municipality has permitted the admission of a reporter to its meetings from the local Rate-payers' Association. Babu Sarodaprosaud Banerji has succeeded in getting a grant from the Municipality for metalling the strand road. The Hon'ble Maharajah Jotendro Mohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I, has offered to pay the cost of repairing the Sooreeparah lane leading to the strand. The local Rate-payers' Association have set themselves in right earnest to remedy the inequality of taxation obtaining in the different wards of the Municipality.

THE SAME correspondent questions the propriety and expediency of giving contracts for the construction and repairs of three or four roads to an individual commissioner instead of giving contracts by competition. He also notices that large sums of municipal funds are kept in the hands of individual Commissioners. He repeats the question—what steps are being taken to recover the money embezzled by Bani Madhub Roy?

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPUR correspondent writes:

Mr. Anderson Joint-Magistrate of Kushtea is fining persons owning guns from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 under the Arms Act for not renewing their licenses. Dr. Benseley, Civil Surgeon of Krishnaghur has prepared a patent medicine for malarious fever, which is obtaining a rapid and enormous sale. People from all parts of the district are flocking in for it. The amount of the daily sale I hear is from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. The greater part of the Doctors' time in the morning is taken up in this way; in the evening he prescribes for his numerous patients. Can we wonder after this that the Doctor has no time to superintend the medical relief operations of his district?

WE HAVE received the following letter from Hooghly:

About three years ago a Civilian Officer Mr. Forbes was deputed by the Government to investigate into Court-fee frauds in Behar and the said officer while making enquiry in Shahabad found several amla of the Civil Court accused. Two of them (one Mohurrir of Sudder Moonsifee and the other record-keeper of Judge's Court) were criminally prosecuted, but when tried by the Magistrate they were acquitted there being no proof against them. However afterwards they were dismissed by order of the High Court. There are now five or six amlas more who are suspected and reported in this matter, but they are serving as usual in that district. Amongst them (Abdul Aziz) a Mohurrir of Moonsiff's Court of arrah was serving there for a period of twelve years and discharged his duties to the satisfaction of his superiors. In 1878 an Additional Moonsiff's Court was established in the Buxar Sub-division and the said Mohurrir on account of his being an experienced amla was deputed by the late Judge Mr. A. V. Palmer there. On the said Mohurrir's objecting Mr. Palmer passed a written order that in the event of the abolition of the said Additional Moonsiffee he will be allowed to go back to his former post at Arrah. The poor man went there after its abolition and on the in strength of the late Judge's order applied to the present Judge Mr. J. B. Worgan for his substantive post; but notwithstanding the previous order, he has refused his request with reference to Mr. Forbes' report on the Court-fee frauds.

FRIDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER.

FROM A Resolution of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, a copy of which has been kindly furnished to us, we learn that a training class will be opened at the Medical College Hospital for the training of four women as nurses and nine women as midwives. A Lady Superintendent will be brought out from England, who will reside in the Hospital. The Ladies' Committee of the Nurses Institution will undertake the management and control of the nurses provided the Lady Superintendent be allowed to exercise full control over the nurses and women under training in all matters not connected with the performance of their professional duties. Some of the women for training will be selected from regiments and stipend will be given to them by the Government of India at Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 per head. The nurses and women under training will be subordinate to the medical officers of the Hospital as regards their professional duties. The native midwives who have received their training in the Medical College are doing their work very well.

THE STATESMAN has the following:

David Hare.—We are glad to notice that since our allusion a fortnight ago, to the neglected state of the grave of David Hare in College-Square, it has been carefully looked after, and everything appertaining to it now bears the mark of delicate touch. The small monument or tombstone has been well cleaned or polished—superstructure and plinth—the iron railing encircling the same painted anew, and the gilding of the inscription on the tombstone re-done. The author or authors of this pious deed are not known to us, but we hope our native friends had a share in the work.

This good work has been done by stealth by a grateful pupil of David Hare—Babu Amirtalal Bose.

WE ARE sorry to observe that the cow case of Mirzapore has been revived. The facts are as follows:

A cow was led through the town to the slaughter-house. Whilst being conducted thither, the animal is said to have fallen flat on the ground at the door of a rich Hindu's house. The good Hindu rescued the cow. The incident occured so late as November last, since which time the parties have been litigating; and now that the High Court of Allahabad, has declined to interfere with the decision of Mr. Cadell, Magistrate of Mirzpore, reversing the order of his predecessor, Mr. Dale, who had ruled that the cow be restored to the owner one Akbar Ali Khan, on condition that he should not slaughter it, the Hindus meditate petitioning the Local Government on the subject.

Is there none at Mirzapore, who can throw oil over troubled waters?

THE EDITOR of *Sahas* published at Allahabad committed the unpardonable offence of complaining of some municipal roads; under the orders of the Magistrate the Kotwal Saheb paid him a visit and called upon him to point out the roads complained of. The Editor thus describes his perigrinations: "I had to walk round and round and at last at 1 P.M. I was released. I, poor Brahmin, came home exhausted, thirsty and hungry, bathed, breakfasted and saved my soul. They gave me nothing if I may say so except the hard words that were now and then applied to me." Why does not the Editor sue the Kotal Saheb for wrongful restraint?

SATURDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER.

MAJOR BARING is giving abundant proofs of the sincerity of his intention to encourage local manufactures. Two Resolutions have been just passed in the Financial Department directing that Alcohol, Nitrate of Silver, Colour Slabs, and Colour Saucers, being articles indented for on England by the Revenue and Survey Department, Madras, and by the Superintendent, Government Printing, Calcutta, are to be obtained in this country.

ACCORDING to weather reports there was a fair distribution of rain in Bengal last week. Reports for the week ending Wednesday last state that more rain is wanted in the North Western Provinces for the late kharif. The early kharif is being harvested. In Jhansi the crops have been slightly damaged by excess of rain, and by floods in Moradabad. On the whole, however, the prospects in the North-West are good.

THE PIONEER now seems to think that the Amir-i-Kabir of Hyderabad was mistaken in criminally prosecuting Mr. Knight for libel. The writer says: "The Amir-i-Kabir blundered into the choice of the most offensive mode of defence offered by the law; and in so doing he naturally enlisted on the side of Mr. Knight a great deal of sympathy, which the merits of the case would not have secured him. Nor is the case one in which the Amir-i-Kabir can expect to come off with altogether flying colours." Again: "It can be shown, and no doubt will be shown, in the course of future discussions and wrangling over papers which have been demanded, and are now, we believe, in course of preparation by the Indian Government, that the co-regent was for a time under a cloud, officially, in connection with certain old attempts at bribery. He is said to have been the victim of a curious swindle in this affair. However, it would be premature to go into the details, till exact information is available. All that we need emphasize at present is that a great quantity of old mud has been unnecessarily stirred, and will be presently flung about with renewed violence, all because,—to pay due attention to indirect causes,—the law of libel is so stupid that the Nazim's co-regent was beguiled into prosecuting Mr. Knight by indictment." This is not a very clear statement. Has it any bearing on Sir Richard Meade's case? We hope Mr. Knight will be satisfied with nothing less than a Parliamentary enquiry into the matter.

A CASTE SQUABBLE was dragged into the Bombay High Court the other day. A man, named Premjee

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Ludha, belonging to one of the sub-divisions of the Bhattia caste, died some time since, and as he had offended the caste laws in some way or other, an interdict was given out by the leaders that he being an outcast, no one was to attend his funeral on pain of fine. The result of this order was that many of the deceased's personal friends abstained from participation in the funeral ceremonies. A cousin of the deceased sued the caste authorities in the High Court for damages. The High Court has very properly rejected the suit.

THERE WERE two errors in our statement of the case of Babu Abinashchunder Bhuttacharjea, late Civil Judge of Jeypore. In the first place the increase of pay he had received was given not by the present Political Agent, but by his predecessor. In the second place the Council of Regency did not at first try him because there was no charge against him. Subsequently, when the Council was directed to award some punishment upon the Judges concerned, it inflicted a fine of Rs. 100 upon both of them respectively, but the Political Agent was not satisfied with its decision. At his instance one Judge has been let off, and the other has been dismissed and ejected from the Jeypore territory.

WE HAVE received some official papers on the subject of claims for lost notes of small value, *i. e.*, notes of the five, ten, and twenty rupee denominations. As the public pass these small notes from hand to hand without record or enquiry, it has become impossible in the vast majority of cases to trace them in case of misappropriation. Accordingly the Government has discontinued the system of recording the names of persons presenting such notes at the Currency offices for payment. The loss to others will be a gain to Government.

THERE WERE 229 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 10th September, of which 22 were from cholera, none from small-pox, 69 from fevers, 23 from bowel complaints, 5 from accidents, suicide and wounds, 12 from pthisis and asthma, 14 from spleen diseases and others, 7 from convulsions, 28 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Ten children were still-born, 47 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year; 25 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 25. The average of daily mortality was 32·7.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Cawnpore Experimental Farm Operations for 1880-81. 2. Report on the progress and condition of the Government Botanical Gardens at Shaharanpur and Mussoorie for 1881. 3. Report on the Horticultural Gardens, Lucknow, for 1881. 4. A concise epitome of Taylor's Ancient History by H. F. G. Macleod. 5. The Civil Justice Report of British Burma for 1880. 6. Report on the Vaccine operations in the Central Provinces for 1880-81. 7. Annual Report of the Soldiers' Total Abstinence Association for 1880-81. 8. Paricharika, a Bengali monthly. 7. Kalpona, a Bengali Magazine.

WE HAVE received the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner's Office:

Simla, September 12th.—Reports have reached Kojak on the 12th from Takhtipul and Ashik that the Amir camped on the 10th at Bandi-Lakirh, eight miles E. S. E. of Kandahar. Firing was heard in the direction of Kandahar up to noon on the 10th, and from morning to 4 P.M. on the 11th. Access to Kandahar is closed.

13th. It is reported that Abdul Kudus Khan, sent with a force from Turkestan to Herat, has taken the fort of Taiwarra. Ayub's garrison has retired to Herat. Also that all is quiet at Kabul, and that regular communication is maintained between the Amir and Kabul.

15th.—Up to the 13th instant, the situation at Kandahar was unchanged, the army continuing to occupy the positions described in the last telegram. All the city gates were closed except the Shikarpur gate.

16th.—The Amir is preserving strict discipline in his army and pays full price for all supplies. He has also compensated villages for damage done to crops.

16th.—Herat intelligence dated the 10th confirms the capture of Ghur by a Turkistan force. Abdul Wahab, the Governor, had fled towards Kandahar. The troops sent from Herat to his support halted on the way.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London September 13th.—Advices from Switzerland state that a terrible landslip has taken place at Elm in Canton Glarus, in which two hundred lives have been lost.

15th—The *Journal de St.. Petersburg* and the Semi-Official *Provincial Correspondence* of Berlin publish articles, stating that the meetings between the Emperors at Gastein and Dantzig testify to a rapprochement between the Emperors of Russia, Austria and Germany, and are pledged that peace will be preserved. Obituary.—General Airy.

15th.—At a convention of the Land League held at Dublin to-day one thousand delegates attended. Mr. Parnell, who presided, warned them not to confide in the Land Act, nor apply to the Land Courts until the League had submitted test cases. He strongly urged united action and adherence to the Land League in order to accomplish the abolition of landlordism. Resolutions were adopted approving of Home Rule and the programme of the Land League.

16th.—According to the decision of the meeting of cotton spinners held at Manchester on the 13th instant, the closing of Cotton Mills is being proceeded with.

New York, September 12th.—The drought which has prevailed throughout America, has broken up. Guiteau, who attempted President Garfield's life, has been shot at by the Sergeant of the prison guard, but only slightly wounded.

13th.—President Garfield has so far improved as to be able to sit up.

Cairo September 12th.—Cherif Pascha has refused to accept the office of President of the Council of Ministers, as he would not submit to the dictation of the military mutineers, who have assumed a threatening attitude.

13th.—The Military, through the influence of notables, have made complete submission, and consequently a new Ministry has been formed under the Presidency of Cherif Pascha. Mahmoud Baroudi has been appointed Minister of War, and Haidar Pascha Minister of Finance. The Porte will send a commissioner to Egypt to investigate the cause of the late crisis. Server Pascha will probably be the official chosen for this investigation.

14th.—The *Official Moniteur Egyptian* publishes a letter from Cherif Pascha, giving the programme of the proposed reforms and eulogising the European control in Egypt, regarding which he lays stress upon the necessity of its continuing. The Khedive approves of the programme. The Porte has renounced the intention of sending a commission to Egypt to investigate into the causes of the late crisis.

Tunis, September 15th.—Owing to the aqueduct which supplied water here having been entirely cut off by the Arabs, the supply of drinking water is now exhausted. It is reported that the Bey intends to abdicate. The French Camp at Zighown is still surrounded by the Arabs and severe fighting continues. The Arabs had made repeated attacks to carry the Camp but were repulsed.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1881.

THE INDIAN BUDGET IN PARLIAMENT.

ALTHOUGH the Indian Budget was introduced at the fag end of the session, the terms in which the Secretary of State apologized for the delay and in which the late Under-Secretary of State for India interpreted it disarm all criticism, and we should not therefore dwell upon it. The statement made by Lord Hartington was a clear exposition of facts and figures and a frank enunciation of his own views regarding the administration of India. We will touch upon a few salient points. Firstly, the Affghan war charges. The Marquis of Hartington said, "the amounts as shown for each year are as follows:—In 1878-79, £2,976,000; in 1879-80, £6,416,000; in 1880-81, £5,590,000; total for three years, £14,982,000. I stated to the House last year that the estimate of the war expenditure was £18,184,000. The amount now shown in the regular estimates for these three years is—war charges, less receipts of all kinds, £15,861,000, and frontier railways, £4,456,000; or about £20,000,000. That is very nearly twice the amount estimated by Sir J. Strachey, in February, 1880, as the probable expenditure on the war. The estimate of expenditure for the close of 1880-81 was—war, £5,980,000; railways £3,940,000; or a total of £9,920,000. The actual amount is over £20,000,000. To that amount is to be added for 1881-2 a charge in respect of the war of £2,300,000, and for railways £880,000; giving altogether a total of £23,412,000. Deducting the amount paid by England the net charge borne by India is £18,412,000. Well, that I believe to be an accurate account of the charge for war." But England had contributed £5,000,000 on an estimated total of £18,184,000. On the principle of calculation adopted by Her Majesty's Government England ought to pay a further sum of one million. Of course this is not to be expected. But the Indian tax-payers cannot conceal it from themselves that though they ought to be grateful for the imperial contribution, whatever it is, it is not based on any equitable principle whatever. His Lordship then explained the reasons for which the whole amount has been credited in the accounts of this year, though only £2,000,000, advanced by the Conservative Government, have been remitted, and the remaining three millions will be paid in six half-yearly instalments. Lord Hartington said:

If this contribution made by this country to India had been unconnected with any special expenditure it would only have been right that this sum of £5,000,000 should never come into the accounts of revenue at all. It would have simply taken its place in the accounts of receipts and disbursements. But in the special circumstances in which this contribution has been made, it is in reality as clearly a receipt in diminution of the war charge as if derived from the increased proceeds of railways and telegraphs, for which credit has been already taken. As the whole of the war expenditure has been or will be brought into the accounts and estimates of the year to which it relates as expenditure, it was necessary to determine how this contribution in aid of that expenditure should be brought to account as revenue. It was impossible to bring it to account as part of revenue received in the former years of which the accounts are now closed, and it would be extremely inconvenient to bring it to account as revenue of the year in which it was received. If that course had been adopted the accounts of the next four years would have been disturbed by the entry of £500,000 as revenue really received. The course, therefore, agreed upon between the Government of India and the Secretary of State in Council as the most convenient way of showing this sum as revenue was to show it as nearly as possible as part of the estimated cost of the war years, thus leaving the years that follow as nearly as possible unaffected by the war expenditure.

This principle, we must say, is opposed to our barbarous notion of arithmetic. We have been taught to regard a receipt of the year as the credit, of the year, and the object of accounts is an accurate statement of facts and not mere convenience. We confess we cannot agree with even such a high authority as the noble Marquis in accepting as a credit of the year an anticipation of three years. Then, again, as Mr. Stanhope pointed out, the half-yearly grant by Her Majesty's Government will depend on the annual vote of Parliament, and should any year Parliament refuse the vote, how would the supposed convenience be conserved? The Secretary of State thus expounded his policy of under-estimating the opium revenue. He said: "Now, the net opium receipts for 1880-1—the highest point ever reached—were £8,468,000, but it is not considered safe or prudent to reckon on the continuance of these large receipts. During the ten years of 1858-9 to 1867-8, the average net income from opium was £5,629,000; from 1868-9 to 1877-8, the average was £6,500,000 in 1878-9 the receipts rose to £7,699,000; in 1879-80 to £8,251,000, and they culminated in 1880-81 with £8,468,000. I must mention that the fluctuation of this opium revenue has always been very great. Only thrice within the last 19 years has the estimate been within half a million of the gross receipts; three times the actual receipts failed to reach the estimate by £1,200,000, and in the 15 other years the receipts exceeded the estimates by an average sum of £1,000,000. It has frequently been inculcated on the Government of India by various Secretaries of State that a prudent estimate of this sort of revenue is to be taken, and the most recent despatch sent to them on this subject expresses a doubt as to the wisdom of very high estimates, and enjoins a more prudent course for the future." We readily admit that opium is a precarious source of revenue, that it fluctuates, and that it ought to be taken at a moderate figure. Hence the opium receipts for this year have been taken at 6½ millions nett. But the revenue will come in all the same, and we may have in all likelihood a surplus of 2 millions. Lord Hartington did not condescend to say how will the surplus be disposed of? Will it be applied to the extinctions of debt, or the remission of taxes, or to the execution of productive public works, or, as we suspect, to the abolition of the cotton duties? His Lordship did not say that the surplus will be kept as a reserve fund for the extinction of debt or the execution of public works, but he positively stated that there will be no remission of taxation. The only tax, which will, however, be remitted, will be the cotton duties, and let the reader imagine if he can where is the money to come from to make good the loss, if it is not to be the opium surplus. Again, if the opium revenue is so precarious, and if it is so difficult to replace it, is it reasonable or prudent to give up the cotton duties, which as a source of revenue are the most unobjectionable, because they are the most easily collected, lead to no inquisitorial enquiry, cause no inconvenience, trouble, or hardship, and do not press upon the poorest consumer. In noticing the decentralization of finance Lord Hartington said: "It is a step in the much needed direction of decentralization. No doubt it is necessary that the richer provinces of India should pay more than their share before the general expenses of the general administration of Government, and it may be even necessary that the

richer provinces should assist in the developement of the resources of the poorer ones; but no doubt the principle is a sound one that each local Government should have an interest in the development of its own revenue and in the economical expenditure of the services which it can itself control." Does this mean further taxation of Bengal? His Lordship then stated that the Famine Insurance Fund will be in future a reality. He said: "In the absence of disturbing causes, a million and a half will be devoted in the first place to any charge for actual famine relief that arises during the year, and if nothing unforeseen occurs, and there should be no famine, any balance of that sum will be devoted to what is called protective works—that is, works which cannot be safely classed as works as to which a reasonable confidence can be felt that they will pay interest on the cost of their construction in a very few years. The remainder of famine insurance provision, £750,000 is to be devoted to the reduction of debt, for which purpose a body of Commissioners have been nominated." The functions of these Commissioners his Lordship could not describe with any precision, because they have not yet been definitely settled. His Lordship then passed on to the public works expenditure, and in congratulating the Indian exchequer on the prosperity of the Indian Railways remarked: "But notwithstanding this extremely favorable result as compared with a few years ago, when productive public works involved a charge of between two and three millions, the Government have not seen any reason to relax the limit of the public works expenditure on borrowed funds, which was recommended by a committee of the House and adopted by the late Government. Until a more certain estimate of the prospects of Indian Finance and also of the results of the works themselves can be framed, we do not think it would be prudent to burden the revenues of India with a greater sum than two and-a-half millions annually for expenditure of this character." But at the same time His Lordship assured the House that liberal encouragement will be given to private enterprise to the execution of public works in India. His Lordship thus dwelt on the cotton duties:

There is one subject with which I regret to say we are unable to deal in the present year. I refer to the cotton duties. The total loss in 1878-79 was £170,000, and in 1880-81 it was £120,000. The loss on grey goods dealt with a few years ago was heavy. The loss on the goods specially dealt with was in 1878 79 £210,000, and in 1880-81 £320,000; and the estimated income derived from grey goods does not exceed £100,000 a year. I need not point out to the House that very considerable inconvenience is caused to trade by the inspection and examination which are necessary under the present system. Often the minute examination which was necessary was somewhat vexatious, but the interference with trade is very great. The result of the interference is shown by the figures. Before the remission, when all—I am speaking of grey goods-were equally taxed, the value of this class of goods was 95 per cent of the whole of the goods. Since the remission the value of the goods which are still liable to duty has fallen to 26 per cent. from 95 per cent. There can be no doubt as to the effect on native manufacture. It has, I believe, almost altogether disappeared. The natives manufactured coarser goods, and therefore they are exposed to the whole of the Lancashire manufacture. But the effect is that while protection has been withdrawn from native industry, a short of protection has been given to one class of English goods against another. The coarser goods are now protected or stimulated by free admissions, while finer goods are still taxed. It seems to me absolutely impossible that this condition of things can be permitted to continue. (Hear.) I regret that it should have been thought necessary to continue it even for another year. It is a state of things unfair to the manufacturers and injurious to the Indian consumer. What has happened? The whole case has been changed by our system, and by the peculiarities of the tariff the Indian consumer is now forced or induced, not to take that class of English goods which he prefers, but that class which the English manufacturer is able, owing to the peculiarities of the tariff system, to supply to him most cheaply. Under this condition of things I believe many mills in Lancashire are actually standing still, because they are unable to produce with their existing machinery that class of goods which is now admitted free. They have been beaten out of the market by the coarser qualities.

What a confession! The cotton duties were first reduced, because it was alleged they tended to protect Indian cotton fabrics, and they are now to be totally repealed, because they serve to protect one class of English manufactures to the prejudice of another. If this is the result, who is responsible for it? Who has brought about this embarassing situation? What a trumph is this of the financial skill, statesmanship, and honesty of England! We should only behold and admire! It is some satisfaction to us to notice that Lord Hartington is not opposed to bi-metallism. After alluding to loss by exchange His Lordship said: "It has always been the aim of every financier to endeavour to secure a more stable exchange. There appears, however, no possibility of establishing a modern tariff between England and India, and there seems to be no greater probability of a common standard. We can only hope that some similar agreement may be come to between this country and India to those which exist between the different countries of Europe. It is no wonder, therefore, that the Government of India feel a warm interest and a deep sympathy with all efforts to arrive at some common agreement, and at all attempts in the direction of fixing a settled ratio between the values of the two metals. Everything done to attain that result is a benefit to India. Holding these views, the Government of India think it their duty to do what they can to assist in the attainment of some agreement between the nations of Europe, and they sent delegates to the recent Paris conference with that object. The House is aware that the conference has adjourned, but it is hoped that on their reassembling some result may be arrived at." England again shews her selfishness. She wont modify her own currency in order to help India, but will be glad if other nations should agree to bi-metallism, and put an end to the exchange difficulty of India. How frank! how generous! It would appear from the tone of Lord Hartington's remarks that much will not come out of the labours of the Army Commission. More than a year has elapsed since the submission of the report of the Commission, and yet the Secretary of State could not find time to consider their proposals. His Lordship said, "they cannot be adopted without full communication with the military authorities at home and with my hon. friend the Secretary of State for War. These proposals, which affect only the Indian Army, might no doubt be dealt with without much difficulty. But we should do well not to adopt any changes in the organization of the Indian Army without full and careful consideration." This does not imply that Lord Hartington will go in for reduction of expenditure with any earnestness or enthusiasm. We consider this a national calamity. His Lordship thus concluded:

My statement, I fear, has been an unusually dry one. (Hear, hear.) I have had no large reduction of expenditure to announce, and no reduction or even readjustment of taxation I am decidedly disposed to take an extremely conservative views of Indian finance. As I have said, there may be some room for reduction in military expenditure, but the framework of the Civil administration of India is of such a character that if it is not to be weak it is essential that it should be composed of the very best materials, (hear, hear,) and if it is to be composed of the best materials they must of course, be adequately paid for. There is much room for a further development of the resources of India, but in the meantime any increase or even readjustment of the taxes or burdens that rest upon the people must affect such vast masses of men and so largely influence public feeling and opinion that I cannot but think that any alteration of taxation, certainly that any increase of it, is only a work to be entered upon with great reserve and caution. In conclusion, I have to say that if I am content to lay before the House a Budget which is simple and unambitious, I hope that it is not altogether an unsatisfactory one. (Cheers.)

The only ray of hope his Lordship could let in upon the dreary prospect presented by him was for the lucky Manchester cotton lords. They alone were comforted with the promise that the cotton duties will be repealed altogether next year.

THE DEBATE UPON THE BUDGET.

THE debate upon the Budget, though not exhaustive, was very interesting. Mr. Stanhope, the late Under-Secretary of State for India, took the lead. He deprecated the delay, which had taken place in the submission of the Budget, because, he said, "a very false impression has been created in India by what its inhabitants consider to be the small amount of interest taken by hon. members in the discussion of the financial affairs of India." He added: "I think it well that some of us should point out that the small amount of interest shown in this subject is due to the fact that it is only brought before us in the last few days of the Session." And we beg to assure our guardians in England that the people of India will not misunderstand the cause. Mr. Stanhope made some pertinent and important remarks on the leading features of Lord Hartington's Statement. He pointed out the inconsistency in the Liberal Party clamouring for economy while in the Opposition and neglecting their own duty when in office. He said:

The Liberal party a few years ago was in the habit of coming down to this House in great force, and of attacking the then Government on the ground that they countenanced lavish expenditure in India; but now we find that not one word is said upon the subject, and that nothing is done in the direction of the reduction of the civil expenditure. (Hear,) hear.) It may, perhaps, be said that times have changed, and that now the Indian Government has more money in its coffers it can afford to spend more on its civil service. That, however, is no answer to the charge which I have to make against the present Government of India, the House having expressed its deliberate view that some considerable attempt should be made to reduce both the civil and military expenditure of India (Hear, hear.) As regards the subject of the expenditure upon the Army of India, we have certainly heard something from the noble lord and the House will recollect that it has been stated, that the result of the labours of the Commission which was appointed to consider the subject last year should be to effect a saving in the military expenditure of India of a million and-a-half per annum. I can quite understand that there may be very good grounds for delay in carrying into effect the recommendation of the Commission, owing to the change of Government both at home and in India, and I fully admit that the Government is entitled to ample time to consider the recommendations of the committee. But, at any rate, a year has now elapsed without any thing whatever being done in the matter, and the noble lord does not hold out even a hope to us that anything will be done to carry into effect the recommendations of the committee. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Stanhope was quite right. But a party in power does not care for the opinion of the Opposition so long as it can command a majority. As regards the cotton duties Mr. Stanhope congratulated Lord Hartington on his adoption of the policy of the Convervative Government, and remarked: "I cannot help thinking in view of what the noble lord has said that he is, perhaps, going a little too fast rather than too slowly, for I think it has been shown that the urgency of the case for getting rid of the whole remaining duties has very considerably diminished." This is significant. Mr. Alderman Fowler, member for the city of London, moved for a Select Committee to enquire into the financial and general administration of India. He supported his proposal by referring to heavy burdens laid upon poor ryots, which he said ought to be "lightened," to the "odious salt tax," regarding which we take the liberty to say he was mistaken, and to the opium traffic, regarding which we must also say we cannot agree with him. He said, "he thought the time had come when a full investigation ought to be made into the whole subject of the finances of India." He continued:

He had received a letter from a distinguished native gentleman, the editor of a Calcutta newspaper, dated Calcutta, July 30 1881, in which he said:—"Considerable interest in our goal administration has been excited by the question put to the Secretary of State by Mr. O'Donnell on the subject of goal mortality and flogging. The terrible increase in the rate of mortality was due to the low diet scale recommended by the prison conference appointed by the Government of India. The conference apparently carried out Sir John Strachey's theory of rations for prisoners. The result was that the poor prisoners were half-starved, and they could not stand the hard and heavy labour prescribed in our goals. Happily the error was discovered by Sir Ashley Eden, and not only has the old scale been restored but it has also been improved. The increase of drunkenness owing to the introduction of the out-still system is another local question, which is agitating the public mind. There has been a considerable increase of drunkenness in Bengal. I am told that not only poor Chasas (field-labourers) but even school-boys in the villages have taken to drinking in consequence of the cheapening of country spirits through the out-still system."

The two subjects referred to in that letter were well worthy of enquiry, as was also the subject in respect of the keeping up of separate native armies in Bombay and Madras, and, indeed, the whole question of the Indian Native Army. They could not, circumstanced as they were, reduce the European Army in India, but it might well be considered whether the Native Army might not be reduced. Then, as regarded appointments in the Indian Civil Service, there was a question for enquiry whether the present system of examination was the best that could be adopted.

A select committee of the House, consisting of the present Secretary of State for India and ex-Indian Secretary or Under-Secretaries and members who had been connected with India, might with advantage go into those matters. Whether a commission or committee was appointed he did not mind, but he was anxious to show the people of India that the House of Commons was deeply impressed with a sense of responsibility towards them. He had heard the Postmaster-General say that he felt no responsibility as a member of Parliament so great as that which he owed to the people of India. He shared in that feeling of his right hon. friend, and, therefore, he wished that something should be done to bring that House into closer connexion with the administration of affairs in India.

Well said. We highly appreciate the motives of Mr. Fowler in making the motion. A periodical enquiry into the administration of India is essential to the good government of the coun-

try. Sir George Balfour seconded the motion. Sir David Wedderburn supported the motion. He said: "It appeared to him that there were several directions in which reform was possible. For example, a large saving might be effected on the Civil Service of India, if the present extravagant system were abandoned of invariably appointing Europeans to the most important and well-paid offices, and if natives or Eurasians were sometimes employed in their stead. An independent commission ought to be appointed, if only for the purpose of inquirying into the extension of the permanent settlement. The noble lord had declined to appoint a Commission this Sessions, but he hoped one would be nominated at no distant date." Mr. Arnold also supported the motion. He laid much stress on wheat cultivation, and said, "that the Governor General who caused 12 bushels of wheat to grow where 10 grew before should be accounted greater than he who had annexed a province." He recommended the permanent assessment of the land revenue. He said, "it was now a matter of common observation in India that a man having two holdings, one upon which the low quit rent could not be raised, would spend all his savings upon it in making wells or other permanent improvements while he would not lay out a penny upon the holding which was liable to future increase of assessment." He also advocated a reduction of official salaries in India. He remarked that "with the rapid development of education in this country he was strongly of opinion that efficient persons could be obtained at considerably lower rates of salary than those now paid. A comparison of English salaries in India with French salaries in Algeria or with Dutch salaries in Java, would be instructive and suggestive to an Indian Secretary of State." Mr. O'Donnell made a telling speech on Indian affairs in general. He also advocated the extension of the permanent settlement of the land revenue. He said: "The periodical reassessment produced great poverty, a feeling of insecurity, extending in some cases over many years, and bitter feelings between landlord and tenant. Nothing, too, could be more cruel than the way in which the revenue was extracted and the arrears enforced." "The parallel between the English Government in India and Irish landlords was complete. The rack-renting landlords discouraged enterprize and entailed poverty on the tenant, and the land taxation of the British Government produced the same effects in India. A permanent settlement ought to be made. The testimony of eminent English officials was conclusive on the subject. The only cultivator who could at all contrive to get on under the present system was the Bengal ryot; in all other parts of India the burden was intolerable. "And Bengal is permanently settled. Mr. O'Donnell thus referred to the letter from a native gentleman read by the member for the city of London. He said: "The hon. member for the city of London read an extract from a letter received, as he knew, from one of the most influential, moderate, and intelligent representatives of native opinion, referring to the profound uneasiness with which all Indians who loved their race and country regarded the efforts made by the Government of India to introduce drinking habits among the Indian people. Even boys at school were put in the way of consuming drink supplied by the agency of the Government." He then went on to shew how the outstill system was calculated to encourage drunkenness. He remarked: "An important native paper asked, was it not a ridiculous spectacle which the Christian presented in India, having a copy of the Bible in one hand and a bottle of rum in the other." After noticing the increase in jail mortality he dwelt on mortality in the tea estates of Assam. He said:

Another question of great importance to which he wished to call attention was the excessive mortality among the indentured coolies in the Assam tea districts. These coolies were immigrants from the healthy climate of their native hills, and, with the permission of the Government, were induced by the planters to go to the tea districts, in which the climate was far from being healthy. They were indentured for three years, having been induced to leave their homes under this false pretence; and he feared that the Legislative Council of Bengal was not unlikely, at no distant date, to give to the planters a power of compulsory indenturing the coolies for five years instead of three, notwithstanding the fact that, in the present circumstances, the mortality among them ranged between 8 and 10 per cent. per annum. or close on 30 per cent. for three years of their indentureship. Another matter which ought to be considered was that Indian Officials not unfrequently invested their savings in the Assam tea plantations, and it might be that members of the Bengal Legislative Assembly and who would be called upon to vote for the planters' Bill were receiving their ten per cent. profit out of the plantations. Surely that was a state of things which ought not to be allowed to continue.

The Bill will be passed by the Governor General's Council, but it may be well worth enquiry how many members of the Committee who drafted the Bill, and also of the Council, who will pass it, own shares in tea estates. Mr. O'Donnell then touched upon the License tax.

Then, again, there was the subject of the tax originally imposed upon the natives known as the license tax, which was condemned by the great bulk of the Liberal party. Something had been done to remove the worst features of that tax, but it is still continued to be a subject of suffering and irritation. It put a weapon of extortion into the hands of perhaps the most corrupt class in the world, the native police; and though the Bengal Government provided European supervision to check the assessments made, the reports in his hands shewed in one district containing 1307 villages only sixty-eight had been supervised while in another containing 9072 villages, only 2 had been visited by the European supervisors. Owing to poverty and terrorism, very few assessments were appealed against, but the reports shewed that of the entire number of appeals no less than two-thirds were successful—a proportion which showed the injustice of the system and the widespread misery it was calculated to produce. (Hear, hear.)

We concur. Mr. W. Fowler suggested that a rupee loan should be opened in England. He said: "He did not see why they should not have a silver loan in this country. If they raise the money here it would be ready when it was wanted; the consequence would be they would get a better exchange whereas, now they got a worse exchange. If they raise it in London they would raise it where there was the greatest demand." He added: "Persons who then looked upon any thing approaching bimetallism as a heresay was now of opinion that the question was one which required grave consideration." Lord Hartington in reply considered some of the questions raised in the debate. With regard to the report of the Army Commission His Lordship said: "I hope that before Parliament meets next year, sufficient progress will have been made to render it possible for us to lay, at least, some of the recommendations of the Commission before the House." This was we must confess a half-hearted answer. Regarding Parliamentary enquiry his Lordship remarked:

The hon. member for the City of London urged reasons why in his opinion, a Parliamentary Committee should be reappointed to enquire into Indian Administration and Indian affairs. I think the hon. member asked me whether I believed that the Committee which had been appointed at the instance of my right hon. friend the Post Master General had been a useless enquiry. Now I am very far indeed from saying that that enquiry was a useless one. I believe on the contrary, a great amount of information was brought together by the enquiry of that Committee, and that it has been the source from which hon. members desirous of informing themselves on Indian affairs have been able to obtain a very great deal of very good information upon various points. But bringing as witness so many gentlemen from India withdraws them for a considerable time from the discharge of their duties and though I am quite willing to admit that the inquiry was a useful one, it does not follow that such inquiries could be profitably proceeded at very short intervals. I do not think it is good for any Government and I do not know why it is better for the Government of India than any other Government, that it should be constantly undergoing examination, and incur a very considerable amount of expense, and prevent the discharge of some of the ordinary duties of Government by bringing over so many high officials from India for the purpose of giving information to a Committee. When the hon. member went through the list of subjects on which he thought inquiry might be profitably instituted. I doubt it very much whether a Parliamentary enquiry would be the most efficient mode of obtaining information.

We wish Lord Hartington had consulted his own colleague, the Post Master General, Mr. Fawcett, and he would have got the best advice from him on the subject. He would have doubtless been told that the periodical enquiry into Indian affairs every twenty-years on the renewal of the East India Commpany's charter was attended with great good, but since the transfer of the Government of India from the Company to the Crown there had been no thorough investigation into the administration of this country, though it loudly calls for enquiry and reform. We are sorry that Lord Hartington somewhat wavered on the Salt question. We hope Major Baring will set him right on this important question. Regarding the Vernacular Press Act His Lordship said:

The hon. member for Haddington Borough referred to some instances in which he said the people of India considered that the pledges of the party now in office have not been fully carried out, and I think he mentioned as one of them the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act. He appeared to be under the impression that the Government of India have only undertaken to consider representations of the Secretary of State in regard to that Act. On the contrary the Assurances of the Government of India are most explicit that they will propose and carry out the repeal of that Act. They have indicated that some revision of the law with regard to prosecutions for libel generally may be necessary; but they have distinctly informed us that they intend to repeal the Vernacular Press Act, and thereby, at all events to get rid of that invidious distinction between the English and the Native Press in India which constituted one of the greatest objections to that Act.

Regarding the employment of the natives of India in the higher officers of the State His Lordship remarked:

The hon. member also thought that the instructions of the Secretary of State were not carried out in respect to the appointment of natives. I should be most happy if my hon. friend would bring to my notice any case that he knows of in which those instructions have failed to be carried out. All I can say is that the rule is that no European, except Covenanted Civil Servants or military officers, should be appointed to any office of over 200 rupees a month without distinct sanction from home, and stating the grounds on which that appointment is made. The object is that in all appointments of this kind either Covenanted Civil Servants of the Government of India, or Officers of the Army, or Natives, should be appointed, and that no appointments should be made of Uncovenanted Europeans without the strict sanction of the Government at home.

We lately gave two instances, and we should like to know whether any notice has been taken of then by the Secretary of State We have not space for more extracts. The motion of Alderman Fowler was ultimately withdrawn. Although the Budget was submitted late, and the debate consequently not exhaustive, still it embraced many points of interest. Lord Hartington, barring a few touches of officialism here and there, was generally frank. Strange to say not a single member opposed the proposal for the total repeal of the cotton duties.

CEYLON AND INDIA: A COMPARISON AND A CONTRAST.

SIR DAVID WEDDERBURN'S contributions to the London *Statesman* are always interesting and instructive reading. His article on "East India Services" in the July number of the *Statesman* we noticed in a recent issue; and we now proceed to draw the reader's attention to his paper entitled "Ceylon—A contrast to India" in the August number of the same magazine. Ceylon, Sir David Wedderburn observes, has become the most prosperous and progressive of the British possessions within the tropics, and is surpassed in prosperity and development by Java alone, among all tropical countries. Both Ceylon and India are under British rule. There is, however this difference between them that whereas Ceylon is a Crown Colony India is a dependency. Ceylon is under the rule of the Colonial Office, while the affairs of India are administered by a separate and special department.

Both the Governor of Ceylon and the Governor-General of India are aided in their administration by an Executive as well as a Legislative Council. The Executive Council of Ceylon, like that of India, consists of five high officials, besides the Governor. The members of the Ceylon Executive Council are Colonial Secretary, the Queen's Advocate, the General commanding the troops, the Auditor-General and the Treasurer. It is worthy of note that the Treasurer is the only one of the six councillors, who before appointment had any personal acquaintance with the affairs of the island. Sir David Wedderburn very reasonably urges that a reform of the Executive Council of Ceylon should be made by the appointment of members thoroughly acquainted with the languages, customs, and wants of the people. The constitution of the Executive Council of India is an improvement on that of Ceylon, as it contains, speaking generally, two or three persons who have been members of the Civil or Military Service, and who consequently possess a knowledge of the country. The Legislative Council of Ceylon consists of sixteen members, only six of whom are non-officials. The non-official members of the Ceylon Legislative Council, like those of India, are nominated by the Governor. Of the six non-official members three are Europeans, one Sinhalese, one Tamil, and one Burgher or Eurasian. The concurrence of the non-official members in Ceylon, as in India, is not necessary to the validity of any law passed by the Legislative Council. Sir David Wedderburn points out that the representation

of the Natives of Ceylon in the Legislative Council is inadequate, and he rightly holds that the time has come for giving to the people of the island a distinct voice in the administration of their own affairs through their own elected representatives. He says :—" There can, indeed, be little doubt that in Ceylon some modified form of direct popular representation would work beneficially, and would render the Legislative Council a more useful and efficient machine of Government. The Sinhalese are an intelligent race, and have already under British rule a certain amount of experience in self-government, in municipalities, local boards and village councils. The Burghers, who are persons of European descent, chiefly Portuguese and Dutch, are well entitled to have a direct voice in making the laws under which they live, and the same may be said even more forcibly with respect to the non-official European residents, planters, &c., who bear a large share of the taxation. Many men of wide Indian experience have recently given expression to the opinion that the time has arrived for conceding to the people of India some modified form of political representation and self-government. But if this be true of India, or any portion of that clime, how much is it true of Ceylon? The island is prosperous and peaceable; it is peopled by various nationalities, living together in a state of amity, such as is rarely seen where great difference of race, language and religion exist; there is a numerous community of Europeans independent of the Government, and there is, in the Burgher or Eurasian population, a valuable connecting link between the European and the Asiatic races. Since 1834 a Legislative Council has existed in Ceylon, and the claims of the people to have a voice in legislation have been recognized by the concession of seats to that council to six unofficial members, but being nominated by the Government, not elected by the people, these six members are not truly representative." In India, too, the claims of the people to have a voice in legislation have been recognized by the concession of seats in the various Legislative Councils to a certain number of non-official members, but as these members are nominated by the Government, the non-official members do not represent the people. There is a perfect similarity between India and Ceylon in this matter; and in both countries the time has arrived for conceding to the people the right of electing a fair proportion of non-official members for the Legislative Council.

The most interesting part of Sir David Wedderburn's article is that which relates to financial administration. The financial administration of Ceylon contrasts most favourably with that of India. We will briefly indicate the main points of the contrast. Financial difficulties do not exist in Ceylon. The revenue of the island has nearly quintupled within forty years, although various taxes and monopolies have been abandoned. There is no land tax proper, though tiths are still levied upon grain as under the Native Government. The military expenditure of Ceylon only amounts to £100,000 or one-tenth of the total taxation, while India has to pay for her army the enormous charge of nearly 17 millions sterling out of an almost stationary revenue of about 38 millions sterling. The small military expenditure of Ceylon, Sir David Wedderburn pertinently remarks, is " calculated to arouse the envy and astonishment of Indian financiers and tax-payers." It has been repeatedly proved before Parliamentary, and Departmental Committees, that India has at the present time to pay at least twice as much for her recruits as she would have had to pay if she could obtain them for herself. India has been made compulsorily to share in the cost of the military organization of England, and she is not allowed to make her own arrangements with the officers and soldiers who serve her. Ceylon is at present practically free from public debt; whereas India has to find annually a sum of about 5 millions sterling to pay the interest on the Public Debt. As Mr. Fawcett pointed out, there has been a most serious increase in the indebtedness of India, amounting in twenty years to 100 per cent. Ceylon, again, possesses remunerative public works, constructed mainly out of current revenue. "The railways now open," says Sir David Wedderburn, "produce a large balance of receipts over expenditure, and a sinking fund for debentures which will extinguish up all debt on their account within a very few years." This should be contrasted with the conclusion at which the Select Committee on Indian Public Works which sat during the Sessions of 1878 and 1879, arrived after a most careful and exhaustive investigation of the entire subject. It has been officially admitted that on the £9,000,000 spent in recent years on schemes of irrigation in Bengal the return which is yeilded is only ½ per cent. Canals and tanks for irrigation in Ceylon are made and maintained out of taxation. Sir David Wedderburn justly condemns the system of having railways constructed under a Government guarantee. He writes: "In India the system of mortgaging the public revenue to British capitalists, by a Government guarantee of 5 per cent upon the cost of constructing railways, has proved to be extravagant and unsatisfactory to all except the investors of capital, who have received good interest at the expense of Indian tax-payers. Even in the self-governing colonies serious burdens have been placed upon the community by impatient attempts to develop prematurely the resources of the country, and stagnation rather than progress has been the result. A costly and useless rail road, constructed for political rather than commercial reasons, is less mischievous indeed than a frontier war, that it may involve as heavy an outlay." We commend these thoughtful remarks to the careful consideration of Lord Ripon and Major Evelyn Baring. The Civil Service of Ceylon, observes Sir David Wedderburn, "affords evidence that competent European officails are willing to serve within the tropics at rates of salary far lower than those prevailing in the Indian Covenanted Civil Service." The church in Ceylon has already been disestablished. It has been recently announced in the House of Commons that the Ecclesiastical Subsidies will be discontinued in Ceylon. Sir David Wedderburn remarks :—"This is an act of disestablishment and disendowment which will remove a grievous scandal, and furnishes an excellent precedent for carrying out a similar policy in India. Hitherto all ideas of religious equality have been outraged in Ceylon by the payment, from the public exchequer, of the clergy who minister to the wealthiest section of the small Protestant community. Only 10 per cent. of the total population are Christians, and of these nearly 80 per cent. are Roman Catholics. Again, the Wesleyans, Baptists, Congregationalists, &c., constitute a large proportion of the Protestants and none of these denominations obtain any share of the Ecclesiastical Subsidies, excepting payment to a few Presbyterian chaplains. This seems like a *reductio ad absurdum* of the notion of State Church, when the community is taxed for the benefit of a religious sect numbering barely one per cent. of the population among its nominal adherents, and well able to afford payment for its spiritual wants. From this injustice and absurdity Ceylon will in future be free, and it may be fairly hoped that what is done in Ceylon to-day will be done in India to-morrow." We earnestly hope Lord Ripon and Major Evelyn Baring will not leave India without removing the grievous injustice, which the maintenance of the Indian Ecclesiastical Department involves. The reasons for which the Church in Ceylon has been disestablished apply to India with equal force.

THE LAND-TAX IN INDIA.

THAT disinterested and indefatigable friend of India, Mr. John Dacosta, has again laid our country under obligation. Just on the eve of the Indian Budget debate Mr. Dacosta, scenting that a discussion might ensue on the subject of Indian land settlements, published a pamphlet on "the Effects of Periodical Revisions of the Land-tax in India." It is a remarkable document. It may be regarded as a State paper. It gives within the compass of 20 octavo pages valuable facts and figures, and official statements shewing the working of the land settlements in different parts of India. Beginning with Madras, he says, "the last administration reports from that Presidency show that the arrears of revenue, annually recovered by the sale of land, steadily increased from Rs. 31,880 in 1865, to Rs. 665,091 in 1879." This increase is attributed to various causes, one of which is thus admitted by the Government of Madras: "Another cause is the reduction in the remissions granted annually, and the gradually increasing charge on the waste"; in other words, the increased Government demand upon land. That this is the chief, if not the only cause, says Mr. Dacosta, will at once appear from the fact that the evil, i. e. the necessity of additional coercive processes, has not extended to the permanently settled tracts in Madras, which annually yield about £500,000 of revenue, and where no remissions whatever have been needed. Turning to Bombay Mr. Dacosta says, "we find that, in consequence of unsatisfactory reports regarding the collection of the land revenue in that presidency, the Secretary of State has quite recently sent out orders authorising a reduction of twenty per cent. in assessments in the Sholapore district. That the asssessments there have long been excessively oppressive, may be seen from a minute of the Government of Bombay indited about seven years ago, in which it is recorded that "the Government had read with much concern the opinion expressed by the Collector of Sholapore as to the undue pressure of the revised rates, in consequence of which a large quantity of land had been put up for sale in default of revenue, much of which found no purchasers." It appears from the reports of the Bombay Revenue Commissioners, that 10,880 acres of cultivated land in Surat and 25,035 acres in the fertile province of Guzerat were abandoned in 1872 and 1873, when the revised assessments were enforced; and that, while the unfavourable year 1871-72 was followed by two exceptionally propitious seasons, the depression of the people, as manifested by the relinquishment of their fields, had continued. From the same causes the revenue collected in the Northern Division in 1874 decreased, although the rates had been enhanced; and official reports of the same period from Poona state that "the amount of land revenue unrecovered was very considerable, and that, in order to realise the amount actually recovered, it was found necessary to sell up many occupancies." Further, a memorial was addressed to the Viceroy in 1875 by some 3,000 landholders in the Bombay Presidency, complaining that the demand made upon them for land revenue was out of proportion with the productive value of the land; and that, owing to their inability to satisfy it, many had been deprived of their estates, cattle and other moveable property, while their tenants and cultivators were on the verge of starvation. These reports, Mr. Dacosta remarks, "materially help to account for the appalling severity of the famine which shortly afterwards devastated the Bombay Presidency, showing, as they do, that the very life-blood of the people had been sucked in the process of raising the land revenue." The effects of the settlement operations in the North-Western Provinces are well described in Mr. Auckland Colvin's admirable Memorandum on the Revisions of the Settlements in the North-West Provinces in 1860-1872. The following extract from that valuable work will show the mischievous and demoralising effects of the revision operations themselves, irrespective of the injury arising from arbitrary and excessive settlements when enforced: "Settlement operations have now, in one district or another, extended over nineteen years. By the time the settlement of Banda falls in and is disposed of, twenty-six years will have elapsed from the date on which the two first districts were placed in the hands of a settlement officer. Others were begun twelve years ago and are not yet sanctioned; one of these is not even yet completed. These facts are significant to those who know what the settlement of a district means; the value of property depreciated, until the exact amount of the new assessment is declared; credit affected; heart-burning and irritation between landlord and tenant; suspicions of the intentions of the Government; a host of official underlings scattered broadcast over the vexed villages . . . Nothing can equal the injury inflicted by a slow, uncertain settlement, dragging its length along, obstructed by conflicting orders, harassed by

successive administrations, and finally threatened with annihilation at the moment when it seemed to have nearly finished its course. Little wonder that we hear of the land needing rest." On the other hand the condition of the peasantry of Bengal has vastly improved as the anuual reports of the district officers testify. Need we quote the oft-quoted testimony of Sir Ashley Eden contained in a speech delivered on his return from a tour through the Eastern districts? His Honor said: "Great as was the progress which I knew had been made in the position of the cultivating classes, I was quite unprepared to find them occupying a position so different from that which I remembered them to occupy when I first came to the country. They were then poor and oppressed, with little incentive to increase the productive powers of the soil. I find them now as prosperous, as independent, and as comfortable as the peasantry, I believe, of any country in the world; well-fed, well-clothed, free to enjoy the full benefit of their labours, and able to hold their own and obtain prompt redress for any wrong."

Now, what moral do the above facts and figures teach? Do they not establish the necessity of extending the Permanent Settlement to the rest of India? In 1862 Lord Halifax had determined upon that measure in the following terms: "The advantage which might reasonably be expected to accrue from permanent settlements, not only to those immediately connected with the land, but to the community generally, were sufficiently great to justify the Government in incurring the risk of some prospective loss of land revenue, in order to attain them; and that a settlement in perpetuity in districts where the conditions required were fulfilled was a measure dictated by sound policy and calculated to accelerate the development of the resources of India, and to insure in the highest degree the welfare and contentment of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in that country." But as usual with Indian officials they baulked the good intentions of Her Majesty's Government by passive resistance. May we venture to express a hope that Lord Ripon will rise to the height of the argument and give effect to the Resolution of Her Majesty's Government of 1862?

THE ROAD CESS.

AT the July meeting of the Bengal Social Science Association the Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerjea read a short but admirable paper on the "District and Village Roads of Bengal." He begins by saying that in times gone by religion and charity were the chief springs of action among the Hindus of Bengal in the execution of works of public utility. He remarks, "no class of works of public utility are more indebted for their origin and number in these provinces to the spontaneous action of native charity than roads and tanks. These works satisfied the behests both of religion and charity and in many cases of self-interest also." He continues: "Excepting the great trunk roads, almost all the important roads which intersect districts and villages are works of native single families who have spent hundreds of thousands of rupees for the purpose. The Rajahs of Burdwan, Natore, Nuddea, Cossimbazar, Paikpara and Bhookylash have long been celebrated for the number and length of roads constructed in their estates, and no less distinguished for liberality in this particular are the families of the late Rajah Sookmya, the late Rajah Buddynath, the late Rajah Nursing, and the late Hon'ble Prosunno Coomar Tagore. The late Baboo Kristo Chunder Bose, of Beerbhoom, expended two lacs of rupees on a single road; the late Baboo Callynath Moonshee constructed the road from Takee to Baraset; the late Rajah Callynarain Chowdhry, of Dacca, constructed the road from Bhawl to Jaidebpore; Baboo Kristomohun Dass, a zemindar of Rungpore, expended a large sum of money in the construction of an important road in the district; and Mr. Glazier, of the Bengal Civil Service, says in his very interesting Notes on the Rungpore Records that "the numerous country roads which intersect the district in all directions were kept in order by the zemindars." It is also observable that in times past there was a better understanding between the district officers and the people, and many good works were done by mutual co-operation. The only available means then at the disposal of the district officers was the ferry fund and convict labour, and with these scanty means and with the liberal contributions of zemindars and other wealthy people they executed vast works of public utility. Take for instance the district of Hooghly. Babu Peary Mohun gives the following statement of roads and bridges executed in that district with the combined action of ferry fund grants and private contributions:

Names of the Roads and Bridges.	Lengths.	By whom constructed.
Bhastara to Tribany.....	16 miles.	Zemindar of Bhastara.
Jonye to the Surussutty.	8 do.	Ditto, of Jonye.
Jonye to Conenugger ...	7 do.	Ditto. Ditto.
Byddabatty to Gobindpur	7 do.	Singoor Zemindars.
Byddabatty to Huripal...	25 do.	Zemindars and F. F. Committee.
Chinsura to Dhoneakhally ...	25 do.	F. F. Committee and Zemindars.
Hooghly to Dwarbasiny.	12 do.	Ditto. Ditto.
Pandua to Calna ...	18 do.	Ditto. Ditto.
Howrah to Jugutbullubpur .	12 do.	Ditto. Ditto.
Metalling of the road from Serampore to Salkea .	13 do.	Ditto. Ditto.
The Bally Tension Bridge	.....	Ditto. Ditto.
The two Bridges on the Doneakhally Road ...	....	Ditto. Ditto.
The three Bridges at Nosorye, Tribany and Satgan ...	....	Zemindar of Noapara.

The remarks of Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjea on the operations of the Ferry Fund Committees are very pertinent. He says: "With the District Collector for their Chairman, the Ferry Fund Committees were composed of a much smaller number of non-official members than the present Road Cess Committee; but in all that go to make a public body efficient they would compare favorably with the Road Cess Committees. Whether it was that District officers had then greater leisure and greater opportunities of making themselves acquainted with the wants and wishes of the people, or that the people could then be more easily satisfied than at present, there is no doubt that the Ferry Fund Committees were very popular institutions. Some of the most important roads which intersect the different districts of Bengal were constructed and provided with substantial bridges and culverts, wherever necessary, for the passage of water by Ferry Fund Committees, and although these works were executed mostly under the contract system, and without the assistance of a highly paid staff of Engineers and overseers, their present condition shows that very great care was taken in their construction." This is perfectly true. Roads made by Ferry Fund Committees were certainly cheap and durable, which cannot unfortunately be said of those made by the Road Cess Committees. It may be said that the present system is more scientific, but the leading feature of the scientific system is that it absorbs money one knows not how, that it takes up in establishment more than what was available from the Ferry Fund for works, and that the works done under it are both dear and less durable. The Road Cess now yields about 40 lakhs of rupees per annum, and yet if comparison were made with the results of the Ferry Fund, yielding about 5 lakhs, and with those of the Road Cess, yielding about 40 lakhs or eight times as much, it would be seen that the outturn of the latter is hardly twice that of the former. The bulk of the Road Cess money is spent upon establishments and upon the maintenance of district roads. "Some of these roads," as Babu Pearymohun remarks, "lead to the sudder stations of the districts, some to large marts and noted places of worship, and others are Railway feeders. The injustice of spending on these roads a large portion of the available road cess funds raised by an impost upon every landholder and ryot in the district is therefore obvious." In sanctioning the Road Cess the Secretary of State remarked, "it is of course essential that the Government of India should be itself satisfied that it is breaking no faith in any measure it may take; but next to the necessity of this assurance is the necessity or, at least, the great importance of making the same conclusion plain to the apprehensions of the people. For this purpose it is above all things requisite that the benefits to be derived from the rates should be brought home to their doors,—that these benefits should be palpable, direct, immediate." "And yet," Babu Pearymohun justly remarks, "there are hundreds, if not thousands, of villages in every district in which not a single rupee has been spent for the construction or repairs of village roads out of the vast sums of money which have been levied from the people thereof during the last ten years." It is also observable that in allotting the money not unfrequently do members of Road Cess Committees manage to get grants for roads in the immediate vicinity of their own quarters. The district is unequally represented in the Central Committee; the distant members cannot as a rule attend, and the fund is practically administered by the district officer with the aid of a few members at the Sudder Station. How often have we heard that the district officer cares to look after those roads only, which he is most accustomed to travel, and to maintain those in which particular members are interested. The main roads of the district are, however, fairly a charge upon the provincial fund, but the Government does its best to relieve the provincial exchequer at the expense of the Road Cess Fund In this way the Road Cess money is frittered away, and the cess payers in the villages are necessarily taught to regard as an empty sound the declaration of the Secretary of State that "the benefits to be derived from the rates should be brought home to their doors—that their benefits should be palpable, direct, immediate." We call upon the Government to enquire whether this deliberate and solemn pledge of Her Majesty's Government has been redeemed, and if not, why not? Is it meet, is it fair, is it just that both zemindars and ryots should be taxed for the construction and maintenance of roads, and that the villages should go without any benefit whatever? We would recommend the appointment of a Commission of Enquiry into the administration of the Road Cess Fund with power to report on the best means of giving due effect to the promise of the Secretary of State on the subject. We hope Sir Ashley Eden will adopt some vigorous measures in this direction before laying down his sceptre.

THE TRAINING OF JUNIOR CIVILIANS.

FOR a long time past the inefficiency of the Covenanted Judicial Service in Bengal has become a bye-word. Some ten or twelve years ago the Judges of the High Court wrote strong minutes on the subject. Sir Barnes Peacock pointedly drew attention to the rising superiority of the Munsifs of the present class and the decadence in the Covenanted Judges. Sir George Campbell endeavoured to remedy this evil, but his remedy has proved worse than the disease. As Sir Ashley Eden in his Resolution on the training of Junior Civilians says, "one of the objects for which the Covenanted Civil Service was in 1876 divided into two branches, was to provide a thorough and unbroken course of judicial training for all officers intended to fill the appointment of District Judge, and thus to improve the efficiency of the Judicial Administration of this Province. Practically, however, the effect of the change has been precisely the reverse of what was intended. Under the old system an officer was not ordinarily appointed to the office of Civil and Sessions Judge until he had passed some years in the discharge of the duties of a Magistrate and Collector, discharging important judicial functions in each capacity, and acquiring considerable knowledge of all matters connected with the disputes regarding land and rent; while under the present system officers are called on to undertake the important duties of a District Judge after not more than 11 or 12 years' service, without any experience whatever in the administration of civil justice, and with no experience of criminal justice beyond that afforded by the work of a Joint-Magistrate. Under the old system officers received a far better training than the present Judicial officers can possibly get." And yet they were not good judicial officers. It was the old men, who had been condemned by the High Court. The present men, the Lieutenant-Governor says, are worse.

"The consequence is," His Honor remarks, "that, at the present day, officers are called on to preside in the courts as Civil and Sessions Judges without any practical knowledge of the details of zemindary management into which the trial of rent suits gives a very great insight, while their judicial experience is entirely confined to the trial of criminal cases, and in very few instances have they heard a single important appeal, even in a criminal case, before they are promoted to the office of Sessions Judge." This state of affairs loudly calls for remedy. It is, as the Lieutenant Governor himself admits, "undeniably a blot on the administration of the province." His Honor makes the following proposals to secure judicial training to Covenanted Civilians :

(*a*) that all Covenanted Civil officers should be invested at the end of five years' service with the powers of a Moonsif, without reference to the branch of the service which they intend to select; and that they should exercise such powers in addition to the powers with which they are vested as magisterial officers.

(*b*) that all Covenanted Civilians should be called on to elect between the Executive and Judicial branches of the service after nine years instead of, as at present, at some period between the 10th and 12th year of service.

(*c*) that officers electing the Judicial branch should, on making their election, be relieved, as far as possible, of executive duties, and be invested with the powers of a Subordinate Judge, and also with the power to hear criminal appeals under section 266 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The Government of India, it appears, has approved the Lieutenant-Governor's proposals, on the understanding that the scheme is to be regarded as open to reconsideration, if necessary, on the settlement of the general question, at present under consideration, of the strength, organization, and recruitment of the Bengal Civil Service.

This scheme, as far as it goes, has our entire approval. But before Junior Civilians are vested with the powers of Munsif they ought to be made to pass an examination in the Civil laws and procedure. It is all very well to give the Junior Civilians an opportunity for training, but surely they should not be trained at the expense of justice. They should not certainly be vested with the powers of Munsif unless their qualification to exercise those powers be tested in some satisfactory manner. Hence it is we recommend that they should be examined in the civil laws and procedure before they are vested with the powers of Munsif. It is observable that Sir Ashley Eden's scheme is a development of the old practice of appointing junior civilians Registrars of the Provincial Court and vesting them with powers to try suits of small value. There is, however, one question which must be grappled with some day or other. If Covenanted Civilians vested with the powers of Munsif be held eligible to the office of District Judge and to promotion to the High Court, why should uncovenanted Munsifs be always kept behind? There will be now room for a fair comparison of the merits of Covenanted and Uncovenanted Judges, and both should be allowed fair play. Indeed, the distinction of Covenanted and Uncovenanted after this scheme comes into operation will be wholly unjustifiable; it will be simply a distinction of colour. We cannot belive that our Government will perpetuate such an inviduous distinction. The Judicial Service ought to be made distinct irrespective of distinctions of country, color, or race, Covenanted or Uncovenanted.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE UNDERSTAND that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor leaves for Darjeeling on Thursday next the 22nd instant.

WE ARE glad to observe that the appeal of the Northbrook Indian Society and Club has already met with a generous response. In Bombay a movement has been set on foot in support of it, and two leading native gentlemen have subscribed Rs. 500 each. We hope the appeal will bear equally good fruit in Bengal. It gives us much pleasure to announce that the Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotendramohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I. has requested us to put him down for Rs. 500. We shall be glad to receive other names.

THE GOVERNMENT of Bengal has issued the following notification regarding the Durga Puja holidays :

Notification, The 16th September 1881.—It is notified for general information that except in cases in which special orders have been or may be issued all public offices under the Government of Bengal will be closed from the 28th September to the 9th October inclusive, on account of the Doorga and Lakshmi Poojahs. The usual arrangement will be made by the heads of departments and offices for any urgent matter that will not admit of postponement.

By order of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, H. M. KISCH, Offg, Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

The Government has been obliged to issue this notification in consequence of the action taken by the Bank of Bengal. We wish the last clause of the notification had been omitted. It is true that arrangements are made in some offices, such as the Customs House and the Secretariat for the transaction of urgent business during the holidays, but this is left to the discretion of the departmental heads. A public notification of the order may lead perverse officers to neutralize the general order by requiring the poor clerks to attend by turns during the holidays. But we feel confident that the Lieutenant-Governor will not allow any thing of the kind. When will the order of the Government of India for offices under its direct control be out? The notification of the Bengal Government will not apply to these offices.

THE Bank of Bengal has issued the following notification anent the Durga Puja holidays :

BANK OF BENGAL.
DOORGA POOJAH HOLIDAYS.

The Bank will be open till 1 P. M. for the transaction of urgent business on the following days :—

Wednesday,	September	28th.
Thursday,	„	29th.
Tuesday,	October	4th.
Wednesday,	„	5th.
Thursday,	„	6th.

By order of the Directors,
R. Hardie, Secretary & Treasurer.

Calcutta, the 5th September 1881.

The following letter of the Bank of Bengal to a constituent dated the 14th instant explains the nature of the "urgent business," which will be transacted by the Bank on the "open" days of the holidays :

"In reply to your letter of the 4th instant received to-day, it is intended to receive and pay money only in urgent cases, and it is expected that constituents will not avail of the Bank's services unnecessarily. Bills falling due during the Poojahs will as usual be presented for payment on the last business day preceding the holidays."

It will be thus seen that money will not be received or paid in the usual way. Even "bills falling due during the Pujas will as usual be presented for payment on the last business day preceding the holidays." Then what convenience will be there to the commercial public by keeping the Bank open on certain days of the holidays? The whole move of the Bank Directors appears to be mere *zid*, a wanton disregard of the national feeling of the people. Very little business will be practically done, as the establishment will not be detained later than 1 P. M. Only the poor *keranies* will be deprived of their national holiday. May we venture to express a hope that the Directors may yet reconsider the matter, and grant their native employes the boon which they have all along enjoyed on the occasion of their national festival?

WE CONGRATULATE Dr. Birdwood on his appointment as a Companion of the Exalted Order of the Star of India. His public and literary services give him an indisputable claim to this mark of Royal favour. He is a warm friend of India, and the right hand man of Lord Northbrook in all schemes for the advancement of the welfare of the people of this country.

WE ARE glad to observe that the British Indian Association are instituting enquiries into the working of the outstill system. They have issued a circular letter on the subject, which contains the following queries :

1. Whether the number of liquor shops has increased under the Outstill System compared with what it was under the Sudder Distillery system?

2. Whether the rural population is now more given to drinking than before, and whether the pernicious habit has been invading the school-going population?

3. Whether the absence of restriction of area in the establishment of liquor shops has not quickened competition and cheapened liquor, and thus offered temptations to intemperance?

4. Whether, supposing that the strength of liquor has been reduced to suit reduced price, the loss of strength is not made up by increase in quantity in consumption?

5. Whether the extended use of liquor has checked the use of ganja and opium?

6. Whether you would recommend a rule of distance in the establishment of liquor shops with a view to put some obstacle in the way of easy access to them, that is to say, supposing you are of that opinion, what interval of distance would you recommend, 3, 4 or 5 miles between any two shops in rural villages, and also in district towns?

If these questions be answered intelligently and after due enquiry, much valuable information may be obtained.

A FRIEND thus writes to us about the debate in the House of Commons on the Indian Budget :

The report of the debate in the *Times* is both incomplete and misleading. It leads one to believe that Mr. O'Donnell's speech was delivered before empty benches. It was so commenced immediately after the adjournment for dinner ; but within five minutes members began to resume their seats and soon the House was as full as at any time that evening containing about one hundred members. The speech was listened to with general attention and would have produced a better effect had it come from any member against whom no prejudice was entertained. Lord Hartington seemed uneasy while Mr. O'Donnell read passages from official papers tending to show that measures were recommended for encouraging the consumption of spirits in the interest of the revenue. He left his seat and walked up to Sir Louis Mallet, and I heard him ask Sir Louis, if he had any knowledge of the order from which Mr. O'Donnell was quoting ; Sir Louis said he had not. Through the kindness of a friend I secured one of the sixteen seats under the strangers' gallery, which consists of the last bench in the House itself, although you are not supposed then to be in the House ; and Sir L. Mallet sat next but one to me.

A remarkable feature in the debate was that three members spoke in favor of permanent land settlement, two of whom, Sir D. Wedderburn and Mr. Arnold, had hitherto been opposed to it. Sir David said : "An independent commission ought to be appointed if only for the purpose of inquiring into the extension of the permanent settlement," and Mr. Arnold said : "It is a matter of common observation in India that a man having two holdings, one upon which the quit rent cannot be raised, will spend all his savings upon it in making wells or permanent improvements, while he will not lay out a penny upon the holding which is liable to future increase of assessment."

It is also remarkable that no member spoke against their opinions, while Lord Hartington's answer would show that he entertains no opinion decidedly adverse to permanent settlement but rather the contrary. He said : "An extension of the permanent settlement is so large and wide a subject for enquiry, that it is absolutely impossible to go into it this hour of the night. It would be impossible in a few sentences to give anything like an adequate explanation of the views of the Government of India upon that question, and I think that although it is well worthy of consideration, I could not enter into it at all satisfactorily now."

Evidently public opinion is beginning to appreciate the value of permanent settlements, and the more strength it gains in that direction the better will the landlords in Bengal be able to resist the attacks which are evidently being made against the permanent settlement of your province by the Rent Bill.

WE HAVE received the following news from Jeypore : His Highness the Maharaja has been vested with the following powers : (1) All cases decided by the Council of Regency in all departments shall be submitted to His Highness for sanction, and if concurred in by His Highness the orders of the Council shall be carried out in the usual manner. (2) Any case, in which His Highness the Maharaja may differ from the opinion of the Council, shall be submitted to a general meeting of the Council at which both the Maharaja and the Political Agent shall be present. (3) In criminal cases His Highness the Maharaja shall have power to award punishment for a period not exceeding five years. (4) His Highness the Maharaja may sanction expenditure up to Rs. 1000 without reference to the Council, provided the items are entered in the Budget. (5) The private exchequer of the Maharaja is placed entirely at the disposal of the Maharaja ; the Kapatdwara apartments are to be under the seal of His Highness, the Political Agent having removed his seal. The cash brought from the several forts has been sent back. Of course these are mere preliminary powers intended for the training of the Maharaja. It is believed that when His Highness completes the age of 21 years, he is now about 20, he will be vested with full powers.

THE LONDON TIMES has an appreciative article on Sir Ashley Eden's recent Resolution on Bengal Finance. The leading journal says :

Sir Ashley Eden entered upon his office about the time when the decentralization system received its latest and largest development, so that he has been responsible for the initiation and the progress of the experiment. The arrangements adopted in 1877 by the Government of India will come to an end during the current year. It will be for the Secretary of State and for the Viceroy and his Council to decide whether the contracts with the Provincial Governments shall be renewed, and, if so, with what modifications or qualifications. From Lord Hartington's language it may be assumed that there is no intention of receding from the decentralization policy, and, indeed, in view of the facts which the report of the Bengal Government records, it is difficult to see on what grounds retrogression could be justified.

After giving some details the *Times* remarks:

The Bengal Government has thus had the control of a succession of surpluses, largely exceeding the necessary payments to the Government of India. These funds have been "made available" for improvement under all branches of the Administration," and, what is of the highest practical consequence, the Lieutenant-Governor has been able to act on his own responsibility with a promptitude and energy that could not have been hoped for if every plan had been referred, at its inception and at every step in its progress, to the Central Government for approval and for the means of execution. Sir Ashley Eden states, with just pride, that, besides making a special contribution of £200,000 to the Imperial Treasury in time of need, he has been able to increase the staff of executive and judicial officers, to provide additional facilities for the administration of justice, to increase the grant for education, to make grants in aid of district roads and sanitary works, to build schools, colleges, and hospitals, and to erect solid buildings in place of the huts used as court-houses and gaols.

The *Times* thus concludes:

The finances of the Government of India have not lost, but gained by the arrangement with Bengal, while Bengal, as we have seen, has made astonishing progress under a healthy and rational administrative system. Whatever may be the course pursued in the future, it is plain from the facts disclosed in the report that in Bengal, at any rate, the population are not "bleeding to death"—to quote the foolish catchword of the alarmist school—but are full of energy, and ready to grasp at any opportunities of turning to good account the vast natural resources of their country.

And Bengal, the *Times* should remember, enjoys the boon of the Permanent Settlement! The successful administration of Bengal Finance constitutes a bright page in the annals of Sir Ashley Eden's four years' rule of these provinces.

MUNICIPAL abuses and oppressions seem to render the Government more unpopular than its own direct acts, for the mass of the population, who are ignorant, are unable to draw a distinction between the Government and the Municipalities, the more so because the Magistrate, who is the representative of the Government, is also the head of the Municipality. The case we are about to notice relates to the Serampore Municipality. The state of relations between Mr. Carstairs, the Chairman of the Municipality and some of the Commissioners, is not of the happiest kind; we have given both sides fair play in these columns by publishing their respective versions of matters in difference. From what we had heard about Mr. Carstairs we had given him credit for honest difference of opinion with his colleagues, but the present case we must frankly confess has somewhat shaken our faith in him. The facts of the case are as follows: In 1868 the Municipal Commissioners of Serampore erected a public latrine in Konnagur on a rather secluded spot, to which no objection was taken by any person. Subsequently a private individual erected a house in the vicinity of the latrine on an unoccupied piece of land, which he had purchased *after* the construction of the latrine. He had done so with his eyes open; he had made no complaint until March 1881, when backed by a local Commissioner he moved theChairman to remove the latrine to a place near the public bathing ghat and gave land for that purpose, and received the site of the old latrine in exchange. The Chairman laid the matter before the Commissioners and obtained their sanction to the removal of the latrine and the exchange of the land. The inhabitants on hearing of this arrangement submitted successively three applications to the Chairman, but no reply was vouchsafed, but in the meantime the new latrine was constructed. *After* the construction of the new latrine some of the Commissioners were asked by the Chairman to hold a local enquiry and to report; and from their reports, which we have seen, it appears that they object to the present site, because it is in the heart of a populous part of the town, close to the bathing ghat and temple, and also to the *gunga bashi* rooms. Still the Chairman was unmoved; a Commissioner then submitted a petition on behalf of the inhabitants, and although some of the petitioners applied to be heard at the meeting their prayer was rejected. At the meeting some of the Commissioners said that if they had known the real facts of the case, they would not have voted for the original resolution sanctioning the removal of the latrine. The meeting then resolved on the retransfer of the latrine to some other site at the expense of the petitioners. Why should the poor inhabitants be fined for an act of the Commissioners, which had been taken for the benefit of a single private individual is not comprehensible to us. Nor did the petitioners see the justice of the order; nevertheless they wrote to the Chairman for information as to the quantity of land required and the estimated cost of the building, but as usual no reply. In the meantime another episode has transpired. It has been discovered that the land upon which the new latrine has been built belongs to another person, and he claims it, and his claim is supported by his zemindar and the Commissioners, who had held the local enquiry. The Chairman has accordingly written to the party who had moved him in the matter, and given the land as his own, to give back the old site, but he has not deigned to reply. The Chairman has placed the Municipality on the two horns of a dilemma. On the one hand he has taken action in a matter in which the public feeling of Konnagore is arrayed against him, and on the other he or the municipality is threatened with litigation. We cannot understand why is Mr. Carstairs persisting in a matter in which the public interests are not involved in any way. The old latrine had been in existence for the last thirteen years and no complaint had been made against it; a private individual wanted the site for his own use, and the Chairman somehow favoured his idea, and for the sake of this individual he has planted a public nuisance in a populous part of the town in the vicinity of a bathing ghat, temple, *gunga bashi* rooms, and a place of recreation, and though the inhabitants loudly protest against this arbitrary and capricious proceeding he seems to be inexorable. Need we say that it is proceedings of this kind which outrage public feeling and make the Government unpopular. If Mr Carstairs has not the good sense to retrace his proceedings, we hope the Government will interfere and redress the grievance of the people of Konnugur, which it seems has affected them deeply.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Allen G. Chattaway, Esq., District Medical Officer. Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of Consumption:—"Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of any other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of confirmed Consumption were placed under my care. In both, the lungs were a mass of tubercular deposit, and every possible sound to be heard in Phthisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat; the diseased (abnormal) sounds nearly inaudible; and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing, and shooting are freely indulged in the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen." Dr de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

London, August 26.

I shall not presume to offer you any general comment on the Indian Budget, presented to the House of Commons on Monday night, but two points may be worth notice. In look with apprehension on these words of Lord Hartington:—"It is unnecessary to dwell upon the great inconvenience caused by the examination necessary under the present system, but the interference with trade is still greater. Before remission the value of that class of goods still liable to taxation was 95 per cent of the whole of the goods, but it has fallen to 26 per cent, while the value of the goods now untaxed has risen from 5 to 74 per cent. Whatever may have been the protective effect of those duties has altogether disappeared. But while protection has been withdrawn from native industry a sort of protection has been permitted between one class of English goods as against another, and coarser goods are stimulated while the finer goods are left alone. It seems to me and to the Government of India impossible to continue such a state of things, and I regret that it should have been thought necessary to permit it for another year. It is unfair both to the manufacturer and the Indian consumer." I may say that the statement has been accepted in Manchester as a declaration that the Import Duties will be abolished. I am sorry for it, and I am not alone in this, among persons who have some knowledge of India. I trust the Government will even yet find some means of escaping the repeal of duties which I am satisfied have fostered the young trade of India.

The other point is the Afghan War. The entire cost of that war, and of the frontier railway connected with it is estimated at not less than £23,412,000, or a third of our huge expenditure. Such is the cost of "glory." I am not entirely of the opinion of the late Lord Lawrence as to frontier policy, and certainly I do not agree with some of the articles of the "*Statesman*" on that subject. I think that those articles allow nothing for the lessons of history. The policy of Russia cannot be looked upon with complacency. But I would "defy" Russia by a generous policy both within and without the frontiers of India. I would not merely admit but encourage her trade. I would make her merchants our friends. But above all I would make India to feel that England is at last her true friend by opening up the paths to honour and usefulness to all her races and peoples.

I wish Lord Ripon would with his sound commercial views, direct his attention to the opening up of the mineral and other resources of India. If one were asked what was the chief feature of the success of Lord Mayo, one might safely say:—"He made the chiefs of India our real friends. They believed him and trusted him." It was a great success. Lord Northbrook was a much more practical Viceroy in all those matters which commercial men most readily comprehend, and he had a word which India learned to rely upon. Lord Ripon might have a glorious field all his own, in the fostering and development of Indian trade. He would clash with no prejudice and offend no creed in sowing these seeds of a future great and self-reliant India.

Of course the cost of the frontier railway cannot be termed war cost purely. It is only fair to say this, and that a reasonable investment for the "material progress of India" remains still it is not the work that any of the great and wise rulers of India would have undertaken from choice.

Parliament has at last earned its well-earned holiday and the Land Bill is the law of the Land. What a fight it has been! Not a fight of eloquence or logic, but of hard endurance on the part of the Prime Minister, and indeed the Government generally. That it will be for good is I think certain. All practical aims in the possession of land are now within the reach of Irishmen.

Let me advise your readers not to omit reading the speech of Mr. O'Donnell which, though it began when not one other member than Mr. O'Donnell was in the House, and hence was addressed to the speaker alone, is fully reported in the *Times*. I do not think it is altogether borne out by facts, and in some portions I deem the assertions a little absurd—as for instance a remark about "the Bible in one hand and a rum bottle in the other"—but it is suggestive for all that of lessons which England will learn by-and-by. Lord Hartington quoted, with high approval, a passage from Sir Ashley Eden on the Decentralization of Finance. The entire debate, as reported in the *Times*, is well worth reading. Lord Hartington's speech is an excellent exposition of policy, and a close and concise presentment of facts, whatever may be said of the facts or the policy. The loss on Exchange (a dead loss to India) the cost of the Afghan War, the money sent out of India all point to the necessity for a rigorous revision of expenditure, and to my view for a new policy of trade. Why should India, once the synonym for industry, be in a position of dependence in any art of industrial life? I do not see why. Nay, more, I believe India will yet find all its old industries revive in new forms. And the ruler who can aid the coming of this bright and healthy time may leave a name among the brightest India has known for generations. I do not think anything could have been more short-sighted on the part of Indian officials than the craving which some (not by any means all) evinced for fresh posts beyond the North West Frontier. If they could only see the future they would adopt a different policy. Everything that adds to an abnormal expenditure brings us nearer to the day of inevitable and inexorable retreatment.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 17th September, 1881.

Our commercial intelligence for the present week is as meagre as it has been for the past few weeks, the markets have continued to manifest great inactivity and nothing of importance has transpired in any department of trade.

Imports.—Cotton goods. This market has comparatively been quiet in the absence of demand from the north, all transactions which hitherto have taken place were chiefly for local requirements and for such countries in Lower Bengal where Doorga Poojah is held and consisted principally in Grey goods of sorts whilst white, coloured and printed descriptions have met with less favor at easier rates.

Yarns.—Import 40s to a small extent found buyers at previous rates, but country manufactures continued to maintain great inactivity except a few bales of 10s to 16s changed hands at reduced rates at half to one anna per morah.

Exports.—Have also been void of animation except for Tea, which owing to late encouraging telegrams experienced a revival of attention and at the public sale held on the 15th instant when 9,720,601 cases were offered, all found buyers except 450, even some secured enhanced rates.

Oil-Seeds.—Nothing of importance has transpired transactions were few.

Wheat.—Very limited operations, prices tend downwards.

Rice.—There has hardly been any change in this market.

Jute.—Continues to be in active demand, but prices owing to large supplies have an easier tendency.

MONETARY.

There has been no change either in rates of interest or discount, market remains same as before.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

Have manifested no change of importance, there have been no heavy fluctuations in the prices, which were at the close as follows;

4 per cent.	...	...	100-12	to 100-14
4½ ,, ,,	...	...	109-1	to 110

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

Have rather been in less demand, Jute industries and I G S were in request.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

		Rs.	As.	P.
District Engineer,	Bhaugulpore	12	4	0
Syad Huji Hossen,	Jhansi	3	5	0
Executive Engineer,	Bhaugulpore	3	8	0
Vice-Chairman	Bhaugulpore Municipality,	3	8	0
A Ganesh Esq,	Jubbulpore	6	8	0
Babu	Obenashchunder Bannerjee, Jaunpore	5	0	0
,,	Dwarkanath Chuckerbutty, Hooghly	6	10	0
,,	Kallyprosunno Chatterjee, Purulia	3	10	0
,,	Rajendralal Sircar, Arrah	10	0	0
,,	Romeschunder Roy, Khare	10	0	0
,,	Nundolal Mookerjee, Gybanda	6	10	0
,,	Roy Romonymohun Roy Chowdry, Bahadeor Rungpore	13	4	0
,,	Gungadas Roy, Moorshedabad	13	4	0
,,	Choytanyaprosad Borat, Chuprah	13	4	0
,,	Nobinchunder Pal, Garden Reach	13	4	0
,,	Monindronath Mookerjee, Ula	13	4	0
,,	Dwarkanath Sen, Saidpore	6	10	0
,,	Gyanchunder Mookerjee, Raneegunge	6	10	0
,,	Luckhiprosad, Rohini	3	5	0
,,	Gonoputty Dey, Somashpore,	10	0	0
,,	Moonshee Hurryhorchurn, Lal Hazaribaugh	10	0	0
,,	Kherodpersad Bannerjee, Segowlee	3	10	0
,,	Atoolchunder Ghose, Nurrail	13	4	0
,,	Mothuranath Guha Teghorya	6	10	0

ERRATUM.

For Baboo Adhurlal Sen, Jessore Read, Secretary, Jessore Public Library		13	4	0

Advertisements.

WANTED a Head-Master for the Rajput School, Jeypore, capable of teaching up to the Entrance Course of the Calcutta University—salary Rs. 125 per month. Applications from candidates shall be received within the 15th proximo. Apply to Principal, Maharajah's College, Jeypore.

JUST PUBLISHED.

A Hand-book of rules relating to Pay, Service Examinations and Travelling Allowances of officers in Civil employ in the Lower Provinces.

Compiled by.

I. C. BOSE, M. A.

Assistant Comptroller General.

Price Rs. 3 per copy, packing and postage charges annas 8; extra copies may be had of the compiler, Treasury Buildings, Calcutta, or of Messrs. Thacker Spink and Company Government Place, North, Calcutta.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

IMPORTERS OF

Excelsior Horse or Hand Power Lawn Mowers.

8	inches	Rs. 40	18	inches	Rs.	110
10	,,	,, 50	20	,,	,,	125
12	,,	,, 65	25	,, With shafts and seat	,,	300
14	,,	,, 80				
16	,,	,, 95	30	,, ,, ,,	,,	400

Grass Boxes if required.

For	14"	and	16"	18"	20"	inch.
Rs.	8		10	12		each.

Garden Roller.

DOUBLE CYLINDER.

18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	inches.
Rs. 50	60	70	80	90	110	150	200	each.

Galvanized Iron Wire Netting

Mesh	½	¾	1	1¼	1½	1⅝	2	inch.
Rs.	2	1-4	1	0-14	0-10	0-8	0-8	p. yd. 2ft. wide.
	3	1-14	1-8	1-4	0-15	0-12	0-12	,, 3 ,, ,,

Border for Croquet Ground, As. 12 per yard.

4 Inches Galvanized Netting 3 feet wide, As. 14 per yard.

Garden Watering Pots.

1	1½	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	20	Qts.
Rs.	2-8	3-3	4	4-8	5-4	5-8	6	6-8	8-12	10-8		Each.

10 per cent. Discount of the above prices for Cash.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.,

Calcutta.

A Special General Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Monday next the 26th September 1881 at 4 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To confirm the Resolution passed by the Town Council on the 18th of August, agreeing to certain recommendations in the Chairman's list for Town Improvements.

2. To confirm the Proceedings of the Town Council at meetings held on the 20th August, 3rd, 10th and 17th September.

3. Government Resolution on the Administration Report of the Calcutta Municipality for the year 1880.

4. To confirm the Proceedings of the Market Committee at a Meeting held on the 2nd August.

5. To confirm the Proceedings of the Tramway Committee at a meeting held on the 25th August.

6. To confirm the Proceedings of the Assessment Appeal Committee at a Meeting held on the 27th August.

7. To confirm the appointment of six Sircars sanctioned by the License Committee on Rs. 16 per month, each depositing Rs. 500 as security.

8. The Chairman to lay on the table Health-Officer's memorandum submitting vital statistics for the month of July.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

GREAT RUSSAPUGLAH NURSERY CLEARANCE SALE.

The undersigned desiring to dispose of all old grafts has made an extraordinary reduction of 15 per cent on the current prices of fruit grafts only which will continue up to 31st December next. The above reduction will be allowed on all purchases above Rupees Ten. All Amateur Gardeners should not lose this rare opportunity.

Russapuglah *via* Tallygunge

NOOROODREN KHAN,
Proprietor G. R. Nursery.

NOTICE.

For Sale the undermentioned Estates the properties of the Land Mortgage Bank of India (Credit Foncier Indien) "Limited." For further particulars apply to the undersigned 1/1 Hare Street Calcutta.

Towzie No.	District.	Pergunnah.	Mouzahs.	Government Revenue. Rs. A. P.	Remarks.
410	24-Pergunnahs.	Azimabad.	Dehi Akrabarriah.	4,371 1 10	
112	Ditto	Mooragacha.	Falenda.	1,611 13 11	
90 &91	Ditto	Magoorah.	Kolsa.	953 11 9	
6 -1	Ditto	Ditto	Palpara Jafferpore.	310 7 0	

G. M. REILLY, *Manager.*

JUST PUBLISHED.

Thirty-nine articles on the Report of the Rent-law Commission.

Reprinted from the Hindoo Patriot.

Price per copy one rupee, inclusive of postage 1 Re. 2 As.

APPLY TO PRINTER.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the Municipal Commissioners have, under Section 196 Act IV. (B. C.) 1876, fixed the hours of 12 P. M. to 7 A.M. for the deposit of refuse, &c., in the streets enumerated below.

The chief object of the order is to stop the practice which at present prevails in some places, of throwing out refuse about sunset, thereby rendering the streets disagreeable for pedestrians after dark.

The carts commence removing refuse at 5 A. M., all householders are therefore requested to direct their servants to throw out the refuse as early as possible, in order to facilitate its speedy removal, but all refuse deposited in the streets enumerated up to 7 o'clock will be removed.

The practice of depositing refuse in streets at any time is, however, open to many objections, and if any householders will place dust-bins in their compounds at accessible spots, the Municipal carts will be directed to remove their contents daily. To those who desire it the Corporation will provide moveable corrugated iron dust-bins at the rates specified below:—

	With brick-work stands.	Without stands.
	Rs. As.	Rs. As.
Corrugated iron dust-bins of 12½ cubic feet capacity ...	11 8	9 0
Corrugated iron dust bins of 16 cubic feet capacity ...	13 12	11 0

This order will take effect from 1st October 1881.

Chowringee Road.
Humayon Place.
Park Street.
Theatre Road
Camac Street.
Harrington Street.
Little Russell Street.
Middleton Row.
Middleton Street.
Russell Street.
Wood Street.
Elysium Row.
Hungerford Street.
Outram Street.
Grant's Street.
Free School Street.
Wellesley Street.
Collinga Bazar Street.
Chowringhee Lane.
Jaun Bazar Street.
Hardford Lane.
Kerr's Lane.
Lindsay Street.
Madge's Lane.
Marquis Street.
Kyd Street.
South Collingah Street.
Sudder Street.
Tottie's Lane.
Lower Circular Road.
Collingah 1st Lane.
European Asylum Lane.
Gardener's Lane.
Peeroo Khansamah's Lane.
Taltollah Bazar Street.
Wellesley Square.
Wellesley 1st Lane.
Wellesley 2nd Lane.
Moonshee Dedar Box's Lane.
Shurriff Duftry's Lane.
Elliot's Road.
Goristan Lane.
Loudon Street.
Rawdon Street.
Robinson's Street.
Royd Street.
Short Street.
Albert Road.
Moria Street.
Upper Wood Street.
Victoria Terrace.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

Municipal Office, 15th September 1881.

The best Medicine for India.

"OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S"

SARSAPARILLA.

THE BLOOD PURIFIER

This extraordinary medicine has a singular influence over the blood, which it enriches and purifies. It removes all pimples and blotches, cures indigestion, with its thousand phases of suffering, strengthens the debilitated frame, enervated by residence in hot climates, builds up the broken constitution, and in fact acts like a charm. As a sustaining, purifying tonic it is invaluable, and highly recommended in long standing cases of indigestion, nervousness, coughs, scrofula, gout, dropsy, and wasting of flesh. G. C. Kernott, M.D., L.S.A., London, says:—"I strongly recommend it in cutaneous diseases and all impurities of the blood, I have been in the habit of ordering your SARSAPARILLA for my patients with the best results. Send me six quarts and six mammoth bottles." CAUTION.—*Get the red and blue wrapper, with the Doctor's head in the centre.* No other genuine. In bottles—2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., and 11s. Chief Depot, 131, Fleet Street, London.

Sold in India as follows:—

Calcutta	BATHGATE & Co.
,,	SMITH STANISTREET & Co.
Lahore	GILLON & Co.
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